Ethiopic Clement

(Translated from Amharic)

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God.

St. Clement said this: After the ascension of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ into heaven, the disciples scattered to all corners of the world to preach the news of the Holy Gospel. The disciples were able to scatter to all corners of the world to bring the people back to faith and knowledge, and to baptize them with the holy baptism of the new birth.

Because of this, the Apostles sought disciples to travel with them to foreign lands. At this time, Simon Peter took me with him and made me his disciple, for I have believed in his teaching and in the God who sent him, and I have understood that he is the head of the Apostles. I also recalled the word which our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ said in the Holy Gospel: "You are rock, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not overcome it, nor shall they prevail against it, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven."

After a short time, he took two other brothers and made them his disciples. After I had lived with him for two years, he took me and brought me to the country of my father and mother, which is called **Metropia**. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ revealed to me the mysteries which he had taught him (Peter).

At that time, the Apostles and other believers were in great suffering and persecution from the wicked Jews. The apostate Jews were killing and hunting down all who believed in Jesus Christ.

From there, Peter took me and went and entered a certain country. And there, a problem met me and Peter; the problem arose from the contentions of the apostate Jews. They created trouble by arguing that the Holy Virgin Mary was not of the lineage of Judah. They said this to deny the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into the world.

These apostate Jews were giving much money to the Greeks and the Romans so that they would destroy the believers in Christ, prevent the Apostles from reading the Old Testament (*Orit*), and prevent them from knowing the first creation of the world.

When I saw all this suffering and trouble that came upon me (from the apostate Jews), I asked Peter, my teacher, to instruct me and tell me how the world was created from the beginning.

For he (Peter) knew all the mysteries from our Lord Jesus Christ, and I had learned the wisdom and books of the Greeks.

I had been troubled because I had no answer when they questioned me with enmity and malice about the Holy Virgin Mary, about our father Adam, about the Old Testament, and about the Prophets.

Most of all, they were uttering insults against Mary the Queen and Saint. But I found no reason for their evil and defiled words in what I knew.

I told all this to my teacher, and he was very sad, and spiritual zeal came upon him. And he said to me: "O my son, I will detail and explain to you all that you have asked me. I will explain to you from the first creation of the

world, and I will tell you for sure about the Holy Mary, the mother of the Christ of Light, that she is surely from Judah, the child of Jacob."

"And I will also tell you how Satan fell from heaven. **O my son Clement, listen carefully to me.** God precedes everything. He has no beginning and no end. His exaltation is above all. He cannot be grasped by the mind. He has neither up nor down, neither inside nor outside.

He is the First, the Ancient of Days, and He is eternal. He is not distinguished and is not narrated. He is above all, and by His Godhead, He is everywhere. Below His creation, He is also above all. Below creation, He also exists. He created light, and He is Light, a light which darkness cannot reach."

"He dwells in unapproachable light which eyes cannot see. He is before all creation. He is the Creator of all, and from His essence comes His praise. He is the Creator of all, and He is praised so that the magnitude of His glory and the steadfastness of His power, the Creator of heaven and earth, may be known."

"And behold, I tell you, O my son Clement, that the Most High God first created His angels, dividing them into ten classes, and made them praise Him with good melody and hymn, standing in their respective ranks. The greatest among them approaches the throne of the Most High God."

"The order of Satan is the first of all the angels who offered praise to God without ceasing. On the first day of Sunday, which is the head of days and weeks, and the first of days, God created the heaven of heavens and the earth, and the order of the high angels."

"This is the order of Satan: the Angels, the Archangels, the Powers, the Dominions, the Thrones, the Principalities, the Messengers, the Seraphim, and the Cherubim; also the brilliance, the light, the day, the night, the winds, and the waters. All these were set in order on the first holy day of Sunday by His holy word."

"On the day God created all this, the Holy Spirit hovered over the waters."

"On the first day, God created the lower heaven, which is called **Faselek**. Because of this, it is known that all heavens resemble this heaven, Faselek, which man sees. This heaven is separated and low compared to the high heavens, because above the heaven called Faselek is another heaven called **Dir?iqon**."

"And above this heaven is the fiery flame, and above the fire is another heaven. All heavens are full of light and brilliance which human eyes cannot by any means look upon or see."

"On the day of Monday, the Most High God created a distinction between the waters on the earth and the waters above the sky. It became like a thick cloud piled up upon itself."

"The remaining waters abide among the winds forever, and they cannot move hither and thither (they do not move)."

"On the third day, God commanded the waters that dwell under the heaven called Faselek to gather together into one place, and that the dry land might appear, and so it was."

"Then the dry land appeared, which was mud, and the earth and the water were mixed. The water was inside it (the earth). The wind came out of the depths of the earth, and it breathed gently. All living creatures live by this, and by it they obtain strength that helps them."

"The earth was created in the likeness of a sponge that rests upon water. And on this earth, God commanded grass, herbs, seed-bearing trees, medicine, and other things to sprout."

"On the fourth day, God created the sun, the moon, and the stars, so that the heat of the sun might dry the earth from its muddiness and solidify the ground."

"On the fifth day, God commanded the waters to bring forth the kinds of fish with their own colors. The waters brought forth fish of various forms. God also created those that fly above the winds, and He created great whales whose appearance is wonderful."

"On the sixth day, God created from the earth all the wild beasts, the cattle, and the creeping things. And God also created our father Adam on this day from the dust of the earth, and He created Eve from the bone of his rib."

"On the seventh day, God finished His work and rested, and He called the seventh day the **Sabbath**. God created our father Adam on the sixth day, on Friday, at three o'clock in the afternoon. On this same day, zeal and plotting came upon Satan."

"God brought Satan down to earth. Before God created our father Adam, all the powers of heaven kept silence for a certain time."

"God the Father said to the Son and the Holy Spirit, 'Come, let Us make man in Our image and in Our likeness.' When the angels heard this word from the Most High God, great fear and trembling came upon them."

"And they said to one another, 'What is this great and wonderful miracle we hear? How can we see the image and likeness of our God and Creator?' And then, all the angels saw the right hand of God stretched out over all the earth, and the whole world was in His palm."

"And then He took a small amount of dust from the whole earth, and a little drop of water from all the waters, and a little wind from the winds, and a little of the heat of the fire, and gathered and held them all in the middle of His palm."

"God created our father Adam from these four feeble things, which have no power, so that all creation of the earth might be subject to him. So that all people might be subject to him, the water, and all that moves in the water, might be subject to him, the wind, and all that breathes, might be subject to him, the fire, so that he may be strengthened by the heat and find the power that helps him."

"Therefore, the Most High God created our father Adam with His holy hand, in His image and in His likeness, so that Adam might receive wisdom, speech, and all knowledge."

"When the angels saw the great glory and great praise that came upon Adam, they were afraid because of the greatness of his majesty. The light of the Godhead shone on Adam’s face, a light brighter than the sun, and his flesh shone like the morning star."

"When the creation of Adam was completed, Adam stood upon the earth. He directed his feet towards Golgotha, and stretched out his right hand towards the place where the wood of the cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was planted."

"From that time, God clothed our father Adam with the garment of the kingdom, the crown of praise, and the majesty of glory and honor upon his head. He crowned him with the crown of the kingdom. At this time, He gave him kingship and priesthood and prophecy, and God seated him upon the throne of glory."

"All the wild beasts, the cattle, the birds, and everything that God created gathered to Adam, bowed their heads, and worshipped Adam."

"And he named them all by their names, and all creation obeyed him and kept his word."

"When the angels heard the word of the Most High God, saying, 'O Adam, behold, I have made you king, priest, prophet, ruler, and judge over all creation that I have made for you. All creation shall hear you, and shall obey your word, and shall be under your hands for you alone,' the majesty of Adam was greatly increased before them."

"And I have given you this authority, and I have allowed you to do as you wish."

"When the angels heard this word from the Most High God, Adam’s great majesty was further increased before them."

"When Satan saw the gift of grace that was given to Adam from God, he became jealous of him from that hour and began to think about him so that he might find a reason against him to deceive him and make him obey him and deny the grace of God."

Adam named everything by its name; creation was obedient and kept his word.

At this time, the Angels heard the Word of God, which said: "O Adam, behold, I have made you a **king, a priest, a prophet, a ruler, and a governor** over all creation that I have made for your sake. All creation shall listen to you, obey your word, and be under your hands. I have given all this authority to you alone."

They all heard Him say, "I have given you this authority to do as you wish."

When the Angels heard this word from the Most High God, the great majesty of Adam became even greater before them.

When Satan saw the gift of grace that was given to Adam from God, **jealousy came upon him from that hour, and he became envious of Adam**. He rose up, thinking of a scheme to deceive him, make him his subject, and remove him from the grace of God.

At this time, God removed the garment of praise and the exalted majesty that was upon Satan, and named him **Satan**, because he had been proud before God, and had not walked in His way, and desired honor for himself.

While Adam was standing on Golgotha, behold, all creation gathered to hear the word of God spoken to him.

Then a cloud of light came, carried Adam, and took him to Paradise. The hosts of Angels went before Adam with praise, hymns, songs, and sweet melody. The Cherubim were blessing, and the Seraphim were sanctifying before him. They brought him into Paradise, and Adam entered Paradise on Friday at **three o'clock in the afternoon.**

God commanded Adam to fulfill all the commandments. He especially commanded him not to eat from the tree that was in Paradise. Immediately, God brought upon Adam a sweet sleep, and he slept in Paradise.

God took one bone from Adam's left rib and created Eve from it. When Adam saw Eve (upon waking from sleep), he was very happy and loved her very much.

While they lived in the Garden of Eden, the Garden of Delight, God clothed them with glory, praise, and majesty. They rejoiced greatly, giving thanks. God joined them in marriage, and all the Angels rejoiced for them.

There was great joy there, a joy that had not been heard of before the world was created, and will not happen again until the voice of joy is heard from God (when the Son comes again in the glory of His Kingdom and those who stand on the right side).

Adam and Eve lived in Paradise for **three hours**. The Garden is above the winds, its ground is heavenly, and it is located above the high mountains. The height at which the Garden is located above the high mountains is fifteen meters.

The Garden is a symbol of the wood of the cross, where Christ was crucified, stretching out His hands. The Holy Cross is planted on the earth.

Satan, in his wickedness, was jealous of all the grace that was given to Adam and Eve from God. Using the serpent as an excuse, he arose to carry out his satanic deeds and envy.

This serpent was the most beautiful in appearance among all the beasts and animals, for its original creation was in the form of a young camel.

After that, Satan carried the serpent of the earth and brought it into the Garden. For this reason, Satan concealed himself in the serpent of the earth, which had a pleasant appearance.

The sight of Satan was very terrifying and no one among all creation could look at him, since the glory of majesty that God had made to dwell in him was removed.

If Eve had seen him concealed in the serpent, she would have been terrified and fled from him, let alone speaking to him.

But Satan, acting as one who teaches a bird the language of man, took a bright mirror and placed it between himself and the bird, pretending to speak to the bird in the language he wished and teaching it.

If the bird sees its own image in the mirror, it will not dismiss what it sees; it seems to it that it itself has come to it. It comes to the image it sees in the mirror to learn to speak.

Likewise, when Satan entered the serpent, he went to Eve, who was alone in the Garden, and called her by her name. She turned to him, and he showed her her own image, like a mirror, and deceived her with his word.

For the nature of a woman is weak, and she believes everything she hears without deliberation.

Satan, in his abundance of cunning and wickedness, spoke to her about the tree in the Garden, telling her that its fruit was delicious, and that **if she ate from it, she would become like God**.

She did not hear the commandment of the Most High God, her Creator, which He had commanded Adam not to eat from that tree, so she desired to eat the fruit of the tree.

Satan went quickly and gave her fruit from the tree. She also quickly went to Adam and gave him the fruit, saying to him, "If you eat this, you will become like God."

Adam heard the word and desired to become God, as she had told him. When the two of them ate from it, they became naked. The grace of God that they were wearing was stripped from them. When they saw themselves naked, stripped of the grace that was upon them, their shame was revealed.

At that time, they cut a piece of fig leaf and wrapped it to cover their nakedness. They were exposed to great sorrow and wept without rest for **three hours**. Adam entered Paradise on Friday at three o'clock and stayed there in the spiritual grace and kingship that God had given them. God greatly reproached the two of them. At nine o'clock, they were expelled from the Garden, against their will, with much weeping, lamentation, and wailing.

After they clothed themselves with fig leaves, God clothed them with **garments of skin**, which is our flesh that is above our spirit, afflicted and painful.

When Adam and Eve came out of the Garden, they slept outside, to the East of the Garden. When they woke up from their sleep, God spoke to Adam and said to him, "Do not grieve. Behold, I will bring you back to your **former dwelling place** from which I sent you out because you transgressed My commandment.

Now understand that because of your erroneous deed, **I have cursed the earth** on account of your offense and sin. Moreover, **I have cursed the serpent** that deceived Eve, and I made its hands and feet withdraw into its belly, and I made its food dust.

But **I have not cursed you**. However, I have decreed upon Eve that she shall be under your feet. Now understand, when you have completed the judgment that I have passed upon you, and you dwell on the cursed earth, behold, **I will send My Son, My beloved**, and He shall descend from heaven to earth, and shall take flesh from a virgin of your lineage, whose name is Mary.

And I will build and choose her, and I will establish a lineage in her for generations after generations, until the time of the descent of the Son from heaven.

At that time, it shall be the beginning of your salvation and your return to your inheritance. O beloved, behold, **I will command your children to keep your body** with myrrh and aloes in a holy treasury until your children come down from the Holy Mountain.

They shall enter the cursed earth. I will command your children who will search then to carry your body with them and take it to the place I shall tell them, for **that place where they shall place your body, there I will perform your salvation and the salvation of all your children.**

For that place where they shall place your body, there I will perform your salvation and the salvation of all your children," He said. God revealed to Adam all the sorrow, hardship, and sickness that would come upon him, and commanded him to endure in everything.

When Adam and Eve came out of the Garden, God placed with them an **Angel of fire** and in his hand was a spear of fire.

Adam and Eve dwelt above the **Holy Mountain** whose name is **Matriyon**, and above which is the Garden of Delight.

They lived there in a cave on the summit of that mountain, being pure and virginal.

And when Adam desired Eve, he took **gold, myrrh, and frankincense** from beneath the Garden and blessed and sanctified them. He had made that cave a place of prayer for himself. He gave the gold, myrrh, and frankincense to Eve and said to her, "Take all these as a **symbol** for the Son of God when He comes into the world.

The gold is a sign of His kingship, the frankincense for the existence of His divinity, and the myrrh for the embalming of His noble body, which He shall take from us. And this shall be a witness between me and you concerning our Savior when He comes into the world."

Adam named that cave the **Cave of Treasures**. After Adam and Eve came out of the Garden, they lived for **ten years** in great sorrow, weeping, and wailing.

After that, they descended from the mountain and dwelt beneath it. There Adam knew Eve, and she conceived. When the day of her delivery came, she bore **Cain and his sister, twin Lûd**.

Again she conceived, and when the day of her delivery came, she bore **Abel and his sister, twin Aqlêmya**.

These sons and daughters of Adam grew up and reached the time of marriage. Adam saw this and said to Eve, "Behold, God has made our children grow. Therefore, **Cain shall marry Aqlêmya**, Abel's sister, and **Abel shall marry Lûd**, Cain's sister."

Adam and Eve agreed on this. But Cain said to his mother Eve, "O my mother Eve, it is fitting for you to give me my sister Lûd, who was born with me, to be my wife, and to give Abel his sister Aqlêmya, who was born with him, to be his wife."

The reason Cain said this was because **Lûd's appearance was more beautiful than Aqlêmya**, and she resembled her mother Eve. When Adam heard this saying of Cain, he was greatly distressed and sad, and said to Cain, "O my son, this thing you seek is **contrary to the Law**; you shall not marry your twin born with you."

At that time, great jealousy intensified upon Cain, and he desired to kill his brother Abel. Then his father Adam said to Abel and Cain, "Choose what you will offer as a sacrifice to God: a pure and unblemished fruit of the earth, and an unblemished offspring of the flocks."

Adam continued his speech and said, "Go up to the Holy Mountain and enter the Cave of Treasures that is there. First, pray to God there, and then offer the fruit and the lambs that you carry as a sacrifice."

"When you have done this, each of you shall take one wife."

The two brothers, Cain and Abel, did as their father Adam commanded them. As they were ascending the Holy Mountain, **Satan entered the heart of Cain** and made him think of killing Abel.

Then Cain and Abel presented their offering before God. God accepted the sacrifice of Abel, but **rejected the sacrifice of Cain**, for God knew the mind of Cain, that he desired to kill his brother.

When Cain saw that God accepted the sacrifice of Abel and rejected his sacrifice, his **jealousy, wrath, and anger increased** upon him.

As they were descending from the mountain, Cain grew hardened against Abel, took a stone, struck him on his head, and killed him.

God cursed Cain because he killed his brother Abel, and placed a mark upon him. He made him live in fear, dread, and anxiety all the days of his life. And **God made him and his wife descend from the Holy Mountain to the cursed earth.**

Adam and Eve stayed there and mourned for Abel with great sorrow, weeping, and wailing. After this, Adam knew Eve, and she conceived and bore **Seth**, a man whose appearance was beautiful, mighty, strong, and perfect in appearance like his father Adam. God made him to be the father of all the mighty people who would dwell on this earth.

Seth married Lûd (who was born with Cain and was given to Abel). After that, he bore **Enosh**. Enosh bore **Kenan**, and Kenan bore **Mahalalel**.

These fathers were born during the lifetime of Adam. After that, Adam lived nine hundred and fifty years. While Adam was alive, Mahalalel was one hundred and thirty-eight years old.

When the time of Adam's rest approached, he called Seth, Enosh, Kenan, and Mahalalel to him. He prayed over them, blessed them, and commanded his son Seth, saying, "O My son Seth, **listen carefully and internalize all**

the commandment that I shall command you."

"When the time of your departure from this world comes, command your son Enosh, and Enosh shall command Kenan, and Kenan shall command Mahalalel. In this way, your children shall command in sequence and **keep this commandment**, generation after generation, and people after people."

"The first thing I command you is, **when I die, embalm my body with aloes and myrrh** and place it in the Cave of Treasures (on the Holy Mountain) until your children and your neighbors come out of the Holy Mountain and enter the Garden of Delight."

"They shall carry my body with them and place it with great care in the midst of the earth. At that time and in that place, it shall be the **time of your salvation and the salvation of all your children**."

"Furthermore, **guide your people with good leadership** and teach them to fear God. Keep yourself and your children far from the family of Cain, the murderer. Also, **observe the hours of the day and night** so that you may continually praise God and ask Him for what you need. My God has taught me all this, and He told me the names of all the animals, beasts, and the birds of the sky."

Moreover, God told me the number of the hours of the day, and revealed to me how the Angels praise Him.

O My Son, let understanding not depart from you. In the **first hour** (6:00 AM), the prayers of My children shall be presented to God. In the **second hour** (7:00 AM), the prayer and intercession of the Angels shall be presented to God. In the **third hour** (8:00 AM), the birds shall praise God.

In the **fourth hour** (9:00 AM), the spiritual beings shall praise God. In the **fifth hour** (10:00 AM), all the beasts and animals shall worship Him. In the **sixth hour** (11:00 AM), the praise of the Cherubim and Seraphim shall be presented to God, and in the **seventh hour** (12:00 PM), the Angels shall go out to God and come from Him, for in that hour their prayers are presented to God, and they intercede for all the living.

In the **eighth hour** (1:00 PM), the luminous heavenly beings shall praise Him. In the **ninth hour** (2:00 PM), the Angels shall be subject to God and stand before the throne of the Most High God. In the **tenth hour** (3:00 PM), the Spirit shall hover over the waters, and all the demons shall flee and be removed from the waters.

If the Holy Spirit had not hovered over the waters in that hour, no one would have been able to drink the water forever, and the evil demons would have afflicted the flesh of man and destroyed all humanity.

If a priest takes water in that hour, mixes it with holy oil, and anoints the sick with it, those who are possessed by demons or afflicted by any other disease shall be healed from their illness.

In the **eleventh hour** (4:00 PM), the joy of the righteous shall increase, and in the **twelfth hour** (5:00 PM), the Most High God shall accept the prayers and supplications of all the children of men.

In the **first hour of the night** (6:00 PM), the demons shall give thanks to the Most High God and worship Him. In this hour, they shall cease all their wicked deeds and not bring harm upon any human until the time they are commanded to do so.

In the **second hour of the night** (7:00 PM), the fish and all that moves in the water, the beasts and the leopards, shall praise God. In the **third hour of the night** (8:00 PM), the fire shall praise God. The praise of the fire shall reach the lowest depths, and no one can speak in that hour.

In the **fourth hour of the night** (9:00 PM), the Seraphim shall praise Him. In the **fifth hour of the night** (10:00 PM), the waters that are above the heavens shall praise Him.

When I was in the Garden, I used to hear the Angels praising God in this hour. Their voice was heard like the sound of large wheels (chariots), and I also heard the waves of the sea presenting praise with a loud voice to the good God.

In the **sixth hour of the night** (11:00 PM), the clouds, the lightnings, and the hail shall praise God. In the **seventh hour of the night** (12:00 AM), many prayers (Suba'e) shall ascend, and in the latter days everything shall be fulfilled, and the time shall come. You shall eat all that you have found (before God), and the earth shall be sanctified, and the Lord of Lords, God, shall walk upon it.

Seth wrote this commandment with his seal, with the seal of his father Adam, and with the seal of his mother Eve. He also wrote the names of all his children and grandchildren, male and female, who he took with him out of the Garden.

All these children of Seth gathered to Adam through Seth, and not a single one was left behind. After Adam spent many hours praying to God for their salvation, peace, and intercession, he blessed them.

Adam died at the age of 950 years. At his burial, all the hosts of Angels gathered because of the greatness of Adam before God. But it was his son **Seth who embalmed him**. Seth placed Adam's body in an ark to the **East of the Garden**, which was the place where Adam and Eve first lived when God brought them out of the Garden.

When Adam died, the sun and the moon were dark for seven days and seven nights. Then his son Seth took the Book of the Commandment that he had written and placed it in the Cave of Treasures, along with the offering that he had taken with him from the Garden. This offering was the **frankincense, gold, and myrrh**. Adam had told Seth about this, saying, "Behold, this frankincense, myrrh, and gold shall pass into the hands of the **three wise kings (Magi)**, and they shall take it as a gift to Christ, the Savior of the World, when He is born in the town of Bethlehem."

The time of Adam's rest (death) was on Friday, at the ninth hour (3:00 PM), on the seventh day of Miyazya (an Ethiopian month), which was the fourth day according to the moon's reckoning. It was at this same hour that our Lord Jesus Christ gave up His spirit into the hands of His Father.

There was great sorrow and weeping among the children and grandchildren of Adam for forty days without ceasing. After Adam's death, the lineage of Cain and the lineage of Seth were separated.

Then Seth took his children, his grandchildren, and their wives and brought them up to the Holy Mountain where Adam had dwelt. **Cain and his children and grandchildren lived below that mountain**, in the place where Abel was killed.

Seth governed his people with righteousness, purity, and holiness, and taught them the message and commandments that he had learned from his father Adam.

O my son Clementos, when the Magi came to our Lady Mary at the time of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, we found with them the **Book of this Commandment**, in which is written the mystery that I now reveal to you. I have now taught you all the mysteries that I know, and also the reason why Adam's son was named **Seth**.

Seth means, "O God, grant health (or healing)," because Adam and Eve lived in purity and holiness. For this reason, God gave them this honor, a name that is greater than all names.

Seth and his people lived beneath the Garden, above the Holy Mountain, blessing and sanctifying God in health and peace. They did not think of any worldly sorrow, and they had no other work except the praise and song of the Garden. **Their food was the fruit of the trees that were upon the Holy Mountain.**

The fruit of those trees was very sweet, because a **good aroma came to them from the Garden.**

These people lived in righteousness and goodness, and there was no malice, jealousy, plotting, or pride among them. They did not think of cursing, nor did they speak falsehood or lie.

When they sought mercy, the Holy Spirit would hover over the waters, and all the earth would be silent, and all that is upon it would also be silent, and the waters would "sleep." In this hour, a priest would rise, mix holy oil with the water, and anoint the sick with it, and those who could not sleep due to illness would be healed from their diseases and fall asleep.

In the **eighth hour** (8:00 AM) of the day, the earth will bring forth grass and greenness and will produce various plants.

In the **ninth hour** (9:00 AM), the Angels shall be subject to God, and **all the prayers of the children of men** shall reach the Most High God in this hour.

In the **tenth hour** (10:00 AM), the gates of heaven shall be opened. In this hour, the prayers of all the faithful shall reach God, and what they ask from God with a pure heart shall be fulfilled for them. The cock crows at this time upon hearing the sound of the wings of the Seraphim, and immediately all creatures praise God.

In the **eleventh hour** (11:00 AM), there shall be perfect joy (on earth), for the sun enters the Garden, and its light shines over all the corners of the world, and all creation rejoices in the light of the sun.

In the **twelfth hour** (12:00 PM), it is fitting that my children stand in silence before God and be subject to Him, for in this hour all the heavenly beings are silent for a short time.

Know all this, listen to my word, and understand that the word of the Most High God descends from heaven to earth, as He told me when He brought me out of the Garden.

For He told me that **His word would save me in the latter days.**

"Listen carefully to all this, and internalize My word. The Word of God descends from heaven to earth. God My Creator told me this when He brought me out of the Garden."

"Behold, He shall be born of a **virgin** whose name is **Mary**. He shall be hidden within her and shall take her flesh. He shall be born of her in the likeness of man, with great power and wisdom, and **no one shall know it except Him**."

"Moreover, He shall be revealed and shall walk with My children upon the earth. He shall grow in days and years, and He shall show forth miracles and wonders openly. He shall walk on the earth and shall walk upon the sea as one walks on dry land. He shall do this and rebuke the sea and the winds, and they shall visibly obey Him. He shall call the waves of the sea, and they shall answer Him quickly, saying, 'Behold, we are here!'"

"He shall make the blind to see, the lepers to be cleansed, the deaf to hear, those who cannot speak to speak, the dead to rise, the lame to be healed, and those who cannot walk to walk. And He shall return many to the knowledge of God."

"He shall also cast out the demons from men."

"Again, He told me and said to me, 'O Adam, do not grieve, because you desired and transgressed My commandment. Behold, I will fulfill the covenant I made with you, not now, but **after a few days** (referring to a long period of time)."

"Again He prophesied to me and said to me, 'I am the Lord, who brought you out of the Garden of Delight to the earth that brings forth **thorns and thistles**, and I placed you in it. **You shall live for nine hundred and thirty years**. Save your head and your back by yourself, and your knees shall tremble, and the affliction of your body shall be revealed. You shall search for your daily food.'"

"**After five days and half a day** (5,500 years in the text's mystical reckoning), I will have mercy on you and forgive you. In the abundance of My mercy and compassion, I will descend to your house and dwell in your womb (lineage) for your sake."

"**O Adam, I will be born as a child for your sake.** O Adam, I will walk in every marketplace for your sake. I will fast for **forty days** for your sake. I will receive many afflictions for your sake, and I will endure the suffering and be crucified on the wood of the cross. All this shall be fulfilled for your sake."

"To Him is due praise, eternal existence, greatness, honor, worship, and song, with His Father and the Holy Spirit, from this time forth and forevermore. Amen."

"Also, know, O My son Seth, that because of the children of Cain, the murderer who killed his brother out of jealousy concerning his sister Lûd, a **flood of water shall come upon the earth**. Therefore, there is no reconciliation for the children of Cain except the blood of the righteous Abel."

It was the custom of those people (the lineage of Seth) to ascend to the Holy Mountain all the time—the young and the old, the men and the women—to be blessed by the body of their father Adam.

And there they would lift their eyes towards the Garden and bow down before God. They would praise, sanctify, and bless Him, and then return to their dwellings.

Adam's son, **Seth, lived for 912 years**. After that, he became ill and was near death. At that time, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, and Enoch, along with their wives and children, gathered to him.

Seth prayed over them, blessed them, and interceded for them. He said to them, **"I adjure you by the blood of the righteous Abel that none of you shall descend from this Holy Mountain and join the children of Cain, the murderer, for you know the enmity that is between us and them, ever since Abel the righteous was killed."**

Then Kenan approached his father Enosh (a mistake in the text, it should be Enosh approaching Seth), and Seth blessed him and said, "O My son, look after your people and your relatives, and keep them as I have kept them. Judge rightly over them, and command your son **Mahalalel** that he also looks after them rightly and in purity, and that he does not cease serving before the body of our father Adam all the days of his life."

Seth died on the first day of the week (Sunday), on the seventh day of the month of Tekemt (October), when Methuselah was fifty-seven years old. His son Enosh embalmed Seth, and they placed him in the Cave of Treasures with the body of Adam.

The people mourned for Seth for forty days. After his death, his son **Enosh** governed his people in righteousness and truth, and fulfilled all the commandments of his father.

When **Enosh was 800 years old**, the blind **Lamech** killed **Cain, the murderer**, in the wilderness among the trees, in a place called **Nol'aragar**. The blind Lamech killed Cain by mistake, as he heard a voice and did not know it was Cain, but thought it was the sound of a wild beast.

Then he took a stone and threw it toward the voice that was moving among the trees, and he hit Cain between his eyes and killed him. When his son, who was leading him, told Lamech, "Behold, you have killed our father Cain," Lamech, in his grief over Cain, powerfully shook his hands, and in his shaking, he struck and killed his own son who was leading him.

Enosh died at the age of 905 years. When he was near death, Jared, Enoch, Mahalalel, Kenan, and Methuselah, along with their children and grandchildren, gathered to him. Enosh prayed over them, blessed them, and interceded for them.

He adjured them by the blood of the righteous Abel not to mix with the children of Cain, the murderer, and told them, "Remember and do not forget the enmity that is between us and them."

Then Kenan approached his father Enosh, and Enosh blessed him and said, "O My son, look after your people and your relatives. Keep them as I have kept them. Judge rightly over them, and command your son Mahalalel to look after them rightly and in purity, and that he does not cease serving before the body of our father Adam all the days of his life."

Enosh died on the first day of the Sabbath (Sunday), on the seventh day of the month of Tekemt. His son Kenan embalmed him, and they placed him in the Cave of Treasures. The people mourned Enosh for forty days.

Then his son **Kenan** governed his people in righteousness and truth and carefully kept all the commandments of his father. He lived for 920 years. When the time of his death arrived, he blessed his children and grandchildren and **died on the fourth day of the week (Wednesday), on the thirteenth day of the month of Sene (June)**. His son Mahalalel embalmed him. **Mahalalel** lived for 895 years in righteousness and truth.

When the time of Mahalalel's departure from this world approached, he commanded his son **Jared** as his preceding fathers had commanded him. Mahalalel **died on Sunday, the second day of the month of Miyazya (April)**. Jared embalmed him and placed him in the Cave of Treasures with his fathers.

When **Jared was 800 years old**, the men among the children of Seth rose up.

They transgressed the commandment of their fathers and abandoned the oath (covenant) that was upon them, descending from the Holy Mountain and **mixing with the children of Cain**. Satan used the children of the blind Lamech as an excuse for them to descend.

For the blind Lamech had two sons: **Yofiel** and **Belqen**. These two made stringed instruments, the organ, the flute, the drum, and played music (singing and dancing).

When the children of Seth heard that Satan had deceived them with the sound of this music and its sweet melody, they descended from the Holy Mountain and **joined the wicked children of Cain**, who were engaged in all wicked deeds.

They became widespread in their music, eating, drinking, and fornication. The women ran after the young men, and the young men ran after the women, **nakedly and openly** in the marketplaces, like the beasts of the wilderness.

Satan deceived the children of Seth and joined them with the children of Cain with the sound of hymns, stringed instruments, music, and fornication that they heard from them. **They descended from the Holy Mountain to the cursed earth.**

They alienated themselves from the neighbors of God (the righteous), and despised the honor which the Most High God had given them, making them His children. As the Prophet David said, "I have said, 'You are gods; you are all children of the Most High'"—because they dwelt in keeping His commandments from the beginning. **But when they sinned, He said about them, "You shall fall like men, and like the angels, you shall fall."**

They greatly erred and **defiled their bodies by committing fornication with the daughters of Cain**. They committed many impure deeds and lusts, and plunged their souls into wicked desires. They behaved like beasts, sleeping man with woman and woman with man, openly engaging in fornication. **Two or three men would come together with one woman** without shame, and they defiled the whole earth.

They mixed all their nature and became inseparable, so that no one could distinguish the children of one from the children of another. **Satan fully possessed them**, and they rejoiced and delighted in music, dancing, and the wickedness of their deeds. The sound of their laughter and lamentation was heard as far as the Holy Mountain, like the neighing of horses.

And after **one hundred mighty and strong men** from the children of Seth had descended and desired to come down from the Holy Mountain, Jared heard about them and was greatly grieved.

Jared sent a messenger to them, and they came and stood before him. He rebuked them, saying, "Do not do this," and adjured them by the blood of the righteous Abel not to descend from the Holy Mountain. He also said to them, **"Remember the oath that you swore before!"**

Enoch also came and spoke to them, saying, "Know, O children of Seth, that if there is anyone among you who abandons the commandment of the fathers, forgets the oath, and descends from the Holy Mountain, **he shall never return to the Holy Mountain forever**."

But they did not return to Jared's word, nor did they listen to Enoch's voice. They descended from the Holy Mountain. When they saw the daughters of Cain, whose appearance was beautiful, walking nakedly without shame, **they mixed with them and destroyed their inheritance.**

After they had done this (defiled their bodies with the daughters of Cain), they wished to return to the Holy Mountain, but **a stone of fire burned and prevented them from entering.** They were unable to re-enter. When others from the children of Seth desired to descend from the Holy Mountain, they were unaware of the stone of fire. They descended to them and defiled their bodies with the impure daughters of Cain.

When **Jared was 900 years old**, his departure from this world approached. Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah gathered to him. Jared prayed over them and blessed them.

He said to them, **"You shall not descend or mix with the people of Cain.** Your children and your wives, however, shall descend."

"The Most High God will not allow them to continue living in this madness, as they have transgressed His commandment and the commandment of the fathers." Then he said to their children: "Behold, you shall now gather on the cursed earth that brings forth thorns and thistles. When you go out from this Mountain, **take with you the body of Adam and the bodies of all the fathers.** Also, take with you the Book of the Commandment and the offering: **myrrh, frankincense, and gold**, and place them with the body of Adam."

Then he said to Enoch, "O My son, you, however, shall not cease **praising and singing before the body of Adam**, and serve before God in righteousness and truth all the days of your life."

Jared died on Friday, at the ninth hour (3:00 PM), on the twelfth day of the month of Ginbot (May), when Methuselah was 965 years old. His son Enoch embalmed him and placed him in the Cave of Treasures.

God neglected the remaining children of Seth because they loved sin. After this, they separated and became two divisions, and desired to descend completely from the Holy Mountain.

When **Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah** heard this, they were greatly grieved about their destruction. After **Enoch had served God for 365 years** (after his birth) and had served God for five years after Jared's death, God gave him the spirit of understanding and explained how He would take him away. At that time, Enoch called Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah.

He said to them, "Behold, I know that the Most High God will reveal His wrath upon these people and will pass a severe judgment upon them—a judgment without mercy. **But you who remain—the fathers of the righteous and holy lineage—do not cease your service before God.** Be pure and live in goodness. Know that no one shall be born in this Holy Mountain after you, and no father shall govern his people in the path of the fathers."

When **Enoch finished this speech, he was taken into life** (Genesis 5:24). God placed him outside the courtyard of the Garden, in a land where there is no death.

The remaining children of Seth descended from the Holy Mountain to the place where Cain lived, and **none of them remained on the Holy Mountain except the three fathers: Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah.**

Noah kept himself in virginity for 500 years. After this, the merciful God spoke to Noah and commanded him to marry a woman whose name was **Haykal**, the daughter of Namus, the son of Enoch (Methuselah's brother).

God revealed to Noah the Flood (Ayiq) that would come upon the world and destroy the whole earth. He told him that this would happen after **one hundred years**, and commanded him to build an **ark** for his salvation and the salvation of his children.

He also commanded him to cut down trees from the Holy Mountain and place them in the dwelling place of the children of Cain. There, he was to build the ark, which was to be **300 cubits in length, 50 cubits in width, and 30 cubits in height**.

And he was to make three dwelling places inside it: the lower dwelling for the animals and beasts, the middle dwelling for the birds of the sky...

God revealed to Noah the Flood (Ayiq) that would come upon the world and destroy the whole earth because it was defiled by fornication. He told him that this would happen after **one hundred years**, and commanded him to build an **ark** for his salvation and the salvation of his children.

God further commanded him to cut down trees from the Holy Mountain. Noah cut them and placed them in the dwelling place of the children of Cain. There, he began to build the ark, which was to be **300 cubits in length, 50 cubits in width (the width of its head), and 30 cubits in height.**

He was to make three dwellings inside this ark: the lower dwelling would be the abode for the beasts and animals; the middle dwelling would be for himself, his wife, his sons, and their wives.

He was to make a water reservoir inside it, and a treasury for food. He was also to make a bell from the wood of the olive tree, **three cubits in length and one cubit in width**.

When he began to build the ark, he would strike the bell **ten times every day**: in the morning, so they would gather for their work; at noon, so they would gather for lunch; and in the evening, so they would gather in their

houses.

If anyone asked him about his work, he would tell them that God was going to send a Flood of water and wash the whole earth, and that he was building the ark to save himself, his wife, and his children inside it.

Noah obeyed the commandment of God and married a wife. Forty years after his marriage, he begot his three sons: **Shem, Ham, and Japheth** (he begot the three boys in succession). Noah's sons married the daughters of Methuselah.

When Noah completed the building of the ark as God had commanded him, **Methuselah fell ill to die.** Lamech, Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth gathered to him, along with their wives. Methuselah prayed over them, blessed them, and interceded for them, weeping and grieving. He said to them: "No one has been spared from all the nations on this Holy Mountain except you. You alone remain. The Lord God of our fathers, who created our father Adam and our mother Eve, and blessed them to fill the earth with their offspring..."

"...May He likewise bless you, multiply your seed, keep you, watch over you, confirm you, and grant you strength and might. May He save you from the scourge that shall come upon this generation. May He pour His blessings upon your children and your grandchildren. And may He grant you the grace that He gave to our father Adam."

"And I pray to Him that He may fill all your seed, and grant you a kingdom and prophecy."

Then he said to Noah, **"O Noah, blessed by God, hear my word and my commandment.** Understand that I shall depart from this world, just as the former fathers have departed."

"Behold, God shall send the Flood and wash the whole earth because of the multitude of sins of men. **But you and your children shall be saved from this flood.** When I die, embalm my body as was done for the former fathers, and place me in the Cave of Treasures."

"After this, take your wife, your children, and the wives of your children, and descend from the Holy Mountain. **Take with you the body of our father Adam** and place it in the ark that God commanded you to make, so that you may be blessed by it. And place the offering—the gold, myrrh, and frankincense—upon his chest."

"Place the bodies of the remaining fathers on his right and left sides, so that the body of our father Adam may be in the middle of them. **Make your dwelling place and the dwelling of your children in the East of the Ark**, and your wife and the wives of your children shall dwell in the West. They shall gather there for eating and drinking. **You shall look out until you come out of the ark and see when the Flood water recedes from the face of the earth.**"

"When you come out of the ark and dwell on the earth, then gather together to eat and drink. **And do not cease your service before God and before the body of Adam** in righteousness and truth, in purity and holiness."

"After you come out of the ark, take the gold, myrrh, and frankincense that came out of the Garden, and place them in the East of the land where you will dwell. And when the time of your departure from this world arrives, command your son **Shem** to take the body of our father Adam and **bury him in the earth**."

"For the place where his body is buried shall be the salvation of his descendants. Let a man from his children serve God in the priesthood before the body of our father Adam in that place. **This man shall be pure and holy all the days of his life.**"

"And He commanded him not to drink mead (fermented drink), nor to shed blood, nor to shave his head, nor to cut his nails. And there, he shall not offer a sacrifice of animals, but **his sacrifice shall be pure bread of wheat and the fruit of the vine.**"

"Behold, the Angel of God shall walk before this chosen man and lead him to the suitable place where the body of our father Adam is to be buried. Also, command that his garment shall be made only from **animal skin**, for he is the priest of God whom He has chosen and sanctified."

When **Methuselah finished all these commandments, he wept, and his tears flowed.** He **died on Sunday, the first day of Megabit (March)**, and the days of his life were 969 years. His son Lamech embalmed him and placed him in the Cave of Treasures where the holy fathers were.

They mourned for him for forty days. After this, Lamech fell ill and commanded his son Noah, just as his father Methuselah had commanded him. **Lamech died on Thursday, the twenty-eighth day of Meskerem (September)**, when Noah's son Shem was 68 years old. His son Noah embalmed him and placed him in the Cave of Treasures. The people mourned for him for forty days. **All the fathers remained with their son Noah on the Holy Mountain until this time.**

The daughters of Cain conceived from the children of Seth and bore mighty and strong children. **The Book says about them that 'Angels descended to the earth and mixed with the women,' but this was not the case.**

Rather, this was said about the children of Seth who descended from the Holy Mountain and mixed with the daughters of Cain. This is because the Most High God had formerly called them "gods": 'You are gods and all children of the Most High.'

But when they descended from the Holy Mountain and mixed with the daughters of Cain, He said about them, **'I said, "You are gods, and all of you are children of the Most High. But you shall die like men, and fall like one of the angels (Satan)."'**

The nature of spiritual beings is not like that of men, and they have no carnal lust. **If they had carnal lust like men, the demons would have mixed with all the women and destroyed the whole world, leaving no one.**

Because the wicked demons are lovers of corruption and fornication, and since they themselves are unable to commit fornication, they enter into men and make them fond of fornication, impurity, and wicked lust.

After this, **Noah gathered the body of Adam and the bodies of all the fathers** and placed them all, each one in its place, inside the ark. Shem carried the gold offering, Ham carried the myrrh offering, and Japheth carried the frankincense offering. **They departed from the Cave of Treasures with great sadness, weeping, and lamentation.**

As they were about to leave, they opened their eyes and looked up to the Garden. They cried out and wept, saying: **"Peace be to you, O Garden of Delight, the dwelling place of our father Adam! Woe to us!** We are going out to the cursed earth, where there is sorrow, sickness, pain, and grief!"

"Peace be to you, O Cave of Treasures, the dwelling place of the holy and pure, the beloved of God! Pray for us, and bless us! Intercede and supplicate for our salvation, for we are now going out from this dwelling, **and we shall not see it again forever!**"

Then they descended from the Holy Mountain, kissing its stones and trees, with great weeping, lamentation, and sadness, and entered the earth.

Noah placed the body of Adam in the middle of the ark and put the offering (gold, myrrh, and frankincense) on his chest. This was done on **Friday, the seventeenth day of Nehase (August)**. The next day, he brought all the beasts and animals into the lower dwelling.

At noon, Noah brought the birds and all the flying creatures into the ark and placed them in the middle dwelling. **When the sun set, Noah, his wife, his children, and their wives entered and dwelt in the upper dwelling.**

The Ark was made in the likeness of the **Church**, in which there is no distinction between male and female. There is salvation and peace within it. Likewise, there was love and peace inside the ark among the beasts, animals, and birds.

Noah brought into the ark those with life in them, **seven pairs** of the pure ones.

When Noah had brought all these creatures in, he closed the windows and doors of the ark. After this, the gates of heaven were opened, and the rains descended. The earth split open and poured forth its waters, and the waters covered the earth.

The great sea, whose name is **Hanos**, which surrounds the world, appeared, and souls were dispatched from everywhere. When the children of Seth saw all this, **they ran to the ark and knocked on the doors to Noah to let them in.** But he did not answer them or speak to them, because the ark was made and sealed by the **commandment of God.** At that time, they repented and grieved, but they found no one to help them and save them from the destruction of death, as the Prophet David sang about them, **"I said, 'You are gods...'"**

...They did not find anyone to help them and save them from the destruction of death, as the Prophet David sang about them, saying, **"I said, 'You are gods and all of you are children of the Most High.'"**

"You were named by this great name, **but you transgressed the commandment of the fathers**, and committed sin, and defiled your bodies with the daughters of Cain. Behold, you shall all die, and you shall be judged with the first one (Satan) who fell from heaven."

The ark rose above the entire face of the earth, and all that had life on earth perished in the Flood waters. The waters rose above the tops of the mountains **five cubits** (or perhaps "fivefold," as the text is ambiguous) by the hand of the Holy Spirit which bore and carried the ark. The waves brought the ark to the bottom of the Garden of Delight, and the waves bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the ark. After this, they turned back.

The waters destroyed all that was left on the earth, and the ark floated upon the waters by the wing of the wind, **from East to West, from South to North, in the sign of the Cross.** The waters remained on the face of the earth, increasing and growing for **150 days**.

After this, the waters stopped increasing and began to decrease, backward from the last to the first day of the Flood. **The ark rested in the midst of the mountains, which they called the mountains of Farda (Ararat).** The waters separated and returned to their sources, and began to dry up little by little until the **sixteenth day of Nehase (August).**

In the month of Yekatit (February), Noah was able to see the tops of the mountains. On the tenth day of the month of Megabit (March), Noah opened the window of the ark on the East side and sent out the **Raven** to know the news. But the Raven did not return or come back to him.

He sent the **Dove** again, and she went and wandered over the earth, but found no place to rest, and returned when the sun set. After seven days, he sent the Dove again. She went and returned, bringing back **an olive leaf**.

From the Dove, the mystery of holiness is known. For the first Dove resembles the **First Commandment**, which found no rest among the wicked nations.

The second (Dove) resembles those who found rest among the nations by receiving the **mystery of Baptism**, which they preached concerning Christ.

The month of Miyazya (April) passed. On **Sunday**, the Flood water was removed from the face of the earth, and the dry land appeared. On this same day, **Noah, his wife, his sons, and their wives came out of the ark.**

After bringing out the humans, Noah brought out all the beasts, animals, birds, and all the creatures that were in the ark, on the **seventh day of the month of Miyazya.** Noah and his sons built a city and named it **Nimako**.

This city was inhabited for a long time by those who were in the ark with Noah, both man and beast. **Noah built an altar to God.**

He offered a sacrifice from the pure animals and birds to God. God accepted his sacrifice and **made a covenant with him, that He would never again bring a Flood of water upon the earth forever.**

The Most High God removed the sign of wrath that used to appear on the cloud. He set the **bow of mercy** (the Rainbow) on the cloud. The Rainbow was shown because the nations formerly used to see the bow of His wrath (the rain cloud) whenever it rained. After Noah made the covenant with God, the sign of the bow of wrath was removed.

The sons of Noah prepared a vineyard in the city and made **wine** from the fresh fruit. They gave it to Noah to drink. **Noah got drunk and slept, and his nakedness was uncovered**, for he had not known the taste of wine before.

His son Ham saw Noah drunk and mocked him. He called his brothers, Shem and Japheth, to see the shame of their father. When Shem and Japheth saw that their father's nakedness was uncovered, they were greatly alarmed. They took a garment, spread it over their shoulders, and **walked backward so as not to see their father's shame**, and covered him.

When Noah awoke from his drunken sleep, his wife told him all that his children had done. Noah became very angry and **cursed his son Ham**, saying, **"Cursed be Canaan!** And his children shall be servants to his brothers forever because of his fault."

Because of this, the children of Ham became servants to the children of Shem and Japheth. Ham lived all the days of his life in transgression, loving wicked lust, because he mocked his father's nakedness. Noah's sleep of drunkenness is compared to the **Crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ** and His sleep in the tomb for three days, as the Prophet David sang, **"God arose as one who wakes from sleep, and like a mighty man refreshed by wine."**

When Jesus Christ rose from the tomb, He broke the power of Satan. He scattered those who crucified Him (the Jews) throughout the world, and caused them to be uprooted from their land. Where they went, they became servants to their brothers and masters, and they were wanderers in poverty. The children of Canaan likewise became **servants forever** and served their masters and were called the servants of servants.

Noah lived 350 years after coming out of the ark. When the time of his departure from this world approached, Shem, Ham, Japheth, Arphaxad, and Peleg gathered to him. He prayed over them, blessed them, and interceded for them.

He commanded his son and firstborn, **Shem**, in secret, saying, **"Bury my body in the earth.** Go into the Ark of Salvation and secretly bring out the body of our father Adam. Let no one know about this, neither your brothers nor anyone else. Prepare provisions for yourself and take **Melchizedek** with you, for God has chosen him above all your children. Carry with you the body of our father Adam."

"When you reach the **Middle of the Earth, bury the body of our father Adam there.** Place Melchizedek in that place to serve before the body of our father Adam. Behold, the **Angel of God shall walk before you** and guide you to that place, the Middle of the Earth, whose name is **Golgotha**. There, the power of God shall be revealed."

"The four corners (or 'elements') of the world shall become one corner (or 'element') there. There shall be the **salvation of his descendants** (Adam's children). This is written on the stone tablets which Moses received from the hands of God." Noah further urged Shem to keep this commandment diligently.

He also said to him that this commandment was passed down by Adam to Seth, Seth to Enos, Enos to Cainan, Cainan to Mahalalel, Mahalalel to Jared, Jared to Enoch, Enoch to Methuselah, Methuselah to Lamech, and Lamech to Noah.

Noah adjured his son Shem not to disclose the place of Adam's body to anyone. When Noah finished this commandment, he **died on Wednesday, the sixth day of Ter (January)**. His son Shem embalmed him and buried him in the earth. They mourned for him with weeping and lamentation for forty days. **The entire time of Noah's life was 950 years.**

After this, **Shem secretly entered the ark and brought out the body of Adam.** He sealed the ark with his father's seal and his own seal. He called Ham and Japheth and said to them, **"Know that my father Noah, before he died, commanded me** to go to the high land and walk about in it to know the trees, the fruits, and the medicines that are there."

"Behold, I am leaving my wife and children. **Guard them diligently until I return to you."**

They said to him, "If you wish to do this, then **take many men with you**, for the land where you are going has many wild beasts and lions."

Shem replied to them, **"The Angel of God shall go with me**, and he shall guard me." His brothers supplicated him, saying, "May the God of our fathers be with you, and save and guide you in all your ways."

Shem then said to them, **"Know that my father Noah adjured me before he died** and commanded me that no one should enter the ark. Behold, I have sealed it with my father's seal and my own seal. Therefore, **neither you nor your children shall enter it."**

They replied to him, "Yes, we shall obey your word and the commandment of our father." After this, **Shem went to the father and mother of Melchizedek** to speak to them about Melchizedek. They said to him, "Behold, he is before you. Do with him as you wish."

Then **Shem called Melchizedek at night and carried with him the body of our father Adam.** They went out, and the Angel of God went before them and brought them quickly to that place (Golgotha). The Angel said to them, "Behold, you have arrived at this place, for it is..."

The ground split open **in the likeness of a door** and swallowed the body of Adam. The ground then closed again as it was before. **The name of that place is Golgotha** (Skull-Place), because there they laid the head of the father of all creation. The head of the Serpent was also there.

This Serpent is the one who deceived Adam and Eve. **The name of that place is also Lutedeye, which means "all the people,"** because all creatures shall gather there in the future. **Shem said to Melchizedek, "You are a Priest forever."**

"Now, I shall praise God, your God, who has chosen you for the Priesthood. **You shall not depart from this place forever.** Do not marry a wife, do not shave your head, do not cut your nails, do not shed blood, and **do not attempt to build a house over this place**. Do not offer the sacrifice of animals."

"But let your sacrifice be **pure bread of wheat and pure fruit of the vine** before God. And behold, the Angel of God shall remain with you forever."

Shem kissed Melchizedek and left him in that place.

Shem returned and entered his dwelling. Iosadek and Peleg, the father and uncle of Melchizedek, came to him. **Shem told them that Melchizedek had fallen ill on the way and died, and that he had buried him.**

When his father and his relatives heard this, they grieved for him with great sorrow.

When the righteous **Shem was 600 years old, he died.** His son **Arphaxad** embalmed and buried him. When Arphaxad was **405 years old, he died.** His son **Salah** embalmed him and buried him in the city that Arphaxad had built and named **Arnasawit**.

When **Salah was 400 years old, he died.** His son **Eber** buried him in the city that Salah had built, near **Senkarb** .

When **Eber was 462 years old, he died.** His son **Peleg** (Melchizedek's father) buried him in the city that Eber had built and named after himself.

When **Peleg was 434 years old, he also died.** His son **Reu** embalmed and buried him. When Reu was 230 years old, all the descendants of Shem, Ham, and Japheth **gathered together and went to the high land** to a place whose name is **Nesqobaqu'e**.

They dwelt there and all spoke **in the tongue of Syriac, Greek, and Chaldean.** All those who say that the language of Adam was the **Hebrew** tongue are liars.

For all those who stand on the right hand of God shall speak **in the Syriac tongue** (Surst).

In the days of **Reu**, the people built a tower in **Babylon**, and there their tongues were divided, each to his own language.

When **Reu saw that the nations were divided** to the ends of the world, he grieved. Reu died at the age of **239 years.**

His son **Serug** embalmed him and buried him in the city, and named it after himself.

From this time, the people were separated, and they became their own nations, and they divided the earth. The children of Shem had **35 kings**, the children of Ham had **35 kings**, and the children of Japheth had **37 kings.**

The kingdom of the children of Shem extended from the border of the land of Persia, in the direction of the East, up to the Eastern sea called **Hodesfen**.

The kingdom of the children of Japheth extended from the border of the Holy Mountain and Mount Nun, towards the East, up to the Sea of Gabya'on, and from the Sea of Mataros up to the Great Sea.

They also had dominion in the land. When **Serug was 139 years old, the mighty Nimrod reigned** over all the earth, and his first kingdom was in **Babylon.**

He saw a vision in the sky: a crown of torn, black-looking silk and various colors.

He commanded a man named Susan to make him a crown and a robe like the vision he had seen. Susan made him a crown of **jacinth, sardonyx, and emeralds** and placed it upon his head.

Nimrod was the first to make a crown and place it upon his head. However, the one without knowledge who says that a crown descended to him from heaven is foolish. His reign was **69 years**, and then he died.

The reign of **Serug** was **130 years** from Adam. During the days of Serug, the people of Egypt appointed a king over them whose name was **Firqor** (Pharaoh).

Firqor reigned over them for **68 years.** During his days, a king whose name was **Fernos** reigned over **Suba**. When he took control of his kingdom, he gathered two great cities: **Awqina and Calya.**

He built a rampart of gold in these two cities. After him, a king whose name was **Naktol** reigned.

He built the wall of Suba. **Suba was ruled by women** until the days of Solomon the son of David.

In the days of Serug, people began to worship idols and bow down to them, and abandoned God. They were divided, each to his own, in the land, without a teacher, or a law-giver, or an ordinance to guide them on the straight path. They erred, denied God, and abandoned Him.

They followed their own ways: some worshipped the **Sun and the Moon**, some worshipped the **Sky**, some the **Idols**, some the **Stars**, some the **Earth**, some the **Animals**, some the **Trees**, and some the **Waters and the Winds**, because **demons blinded their eyes.**

Satan cast them into darkness without light. None of them believed in the **resurrection of the dead** on the day of judgment. When one of them died, his relatives would make an **image** of him to commemorate him, as was their custom in those days.

All the earth was filled with sin, and it was filled with **images made by the hands of men.** When **Serug was 230 years old, he died.** His son **Nahor** embalmed him and buried him in the city that he had built and named after himself.

When **Nahor was 420 years old, the Most High God saw all creation bowing down to idols and destroying themselves through transgression.** He sent a **great earthquake** upon them, and **all their idols were swallowed by the earth.**

But they did not turn back from their error or their wickedness. They continued to commit evil and sin. One hundred and twenty years into the reign of **Terah**, **idolatry was revealed again.** The first instance was when a rich man died, and his son made an image of his father out of gold and placed it on his tomb, as was the custom in those days.

This rich man's son who had placed the golden image of his deceased father on the tomb had appointed a **guardian** to watch over it. The **demon (Satan)** that was dwelling in the golden image spoke to the guardian **in the voice of the deceased man.** The man went and told the rich man's son what he had heard from the image.

After a few days, **thieves** entered the house of the deceased rich man's son and stole the son's possessions. The son went to his father's tomb and wept greatly before the golden image. The demon dwelling in the golden image spoke to him.

It said to him **in the voice of his father**, "Do not grieve or weep, my son. Go and **bring your son and sacrifice him to me,** and you will recover all your possessions." The son immediately went and brought his youngest son and sacrificed him to the demon.

The demon entered this man from that time forward, and taught him the work of sorcery and all the work of idols. From then on, people learned from this man to **sacrifice their children to demons** and continued to offer sacrifices. Towards the end of **Nahor's** days, the Most High God saw the path of the demons and the error, wickedness, and sin of the people, and how they sacrificed their children to demons and bowed down to idols.

God sent a **great wind and storm** upon them. It overturned their idols and **buried them in the earth, and created great mountains over them.** The people who were buried there remain under those mountains to this day.

Because of this, others say that a **Flood of wind** came in the days of Terah. Also, the teachers of India say that these mountains and hills were created in the time of the Flood (of water) because of the **worship of idols and the sin of the children of Cain** in the land.

When we consider all this, **those who say that these mountains and hills were created from ancient times (from the beginning of creation) are mistaken.**

Rather, these mountains and hills were created when **God chastised man** because they worshipped idols and bowed down to them. They say that in all the mountains and hills of the earth, **Satan and idols dwell within them.**

In the days of **Nimrod the Mighty**, Nimrod bowed down to **fire**. He established the place where he had seen fire rising from the earth to the sky as a place to worship the fire and offer frankincense to it continually.

From that time, the fire-worshippers (Sabian) began to bow down to fire. When the fire ascended to the sky, they worshipped it. Furthermore, another governor whose name was **Sas** descended to a place in the land of Adragen, to a **spring of water**, and stood there. He placed a **white horse** there. All who came to wash themselves in that spring of water began to **bow down to that horse** and worshipped it.

Because of this, the fire-worshippers (Sabian) magnified and honored that horse, and **some of them still bow down to it to this day.**

When Nimrod first traveled from country to country, he entered the city of Traws. There, he found **Bonitor, the son of Noah, the fourth generation.**

Nimrod saw Bonitor and **bowed down to him.** Bonitor said to him, "Why do you bow down to me?" Nimrod replied, "I came to you because I found you with great difficulty." Nimrod stayed with him for **ten years** to learn wisdom and counsel.

After ten years, as Bonitor was sending Nimrod away, Bonitor said to him, "Do not come back to me again." **Nimrod traveled eastward and wrote books** about all that he had learned from Bonitor, the son of Noah.

There was a man there whose name was **Azdesir**, who served the fire. When he saw the wisdom of Nimrod and what he had learned from the stars, **he became jealous of him.**

The demon that appeared in the image of fire went to Azdesir, and Azdesir asked the demon to **teach him the wisdom of Nimrod.** The demon answered and said to him, **"If you wish me to teach you, then fulfill all my laws and ordinances: sleep with your mother, your sisters, and your daughters."**

Azdesir did everything the demon commanded him. From that day, people began to **sleep with their mothers, their sisters, and their daughters.**

The demon taught Azdesir all the **teachings of sorcery, magic, and idol worship.** The **Chaldean people** were strengthened in this teaching. **All who learn this teaching have no forgiveness from God.**

The teaching that **Nimrod learned from Bonitor, the son of Noah**, was from God, because it was the **teaching of the stars** (astrology) for knowing **years and months.** The Greeks call this teaching **Astronomia** (Astronomy).

Nimrod built great cities. The names of these cities were **Gidebror, Al-Rasu, Selu, Qeto'astnun, Ardagin, the cities of Adrgen, and Wellela.**

He also built other cities for himself. When **Terah, the father of Abraham, was 263 years old, he died.** His son **Abraham** embalmed him and buried him in the city of **Tagran**.

After this, God commanded Abraham. He buried his father, as God commanded him. God commanded him to go to the **Holy Land.** Abraham arose, took his wife **Sarah**, and **Lot**, the son of his brother. He went to the land of the **Amorites** (Canaan). **He was 75 years old** when he fought with the heathen kings and scattered them before him.

At that time, Abraham had no children, because his wife Sarah was barren. When Abraham returned from the slaughter of the heathen, **God commanded him to go to Warignan, which means Debre Manos** (Mount of Delight).

Abraham went, and when he saw **Melchizedek, he bowed down to him and prostrated himself**, because there he met **Melchizedek, the Priest of the Most High God.**

When Abraham saw him, he offered before him **pure wheat bread and pure wine.** Melchizedek blessed him and interceded for him.

At that time, **God commanded Melchizedek to shave his head, cut his nails, and mend his ways** (i.e., return to the practices of regular men of God). And he did as he was commanded.

Melchizedek then consecrated the Eucharist (Qurban) and offered Abraham from that bread and wine. **Abraham gave Melchizedek a tithe** from all his possessions.

God spoke to Abraham again and said to him, "Behold, **I shall make you great and I shall honor you, for My eyes are upon you, because you received the blessing of Melchizedek** and became worthy to receive (the offering) from the hands of Melchizedek."

"And **I shall exceedingly bless you, and I shall multiply your seed.**"

When **Abraham was 87 years old, he begot Ishmael** from **Hagar the Egyptian slave-woman**, whom Pharaoh, king of Egypt, had given to Sarah, Abraham's wife. **Sarah was Abraham's sister only by his father, not by his mother.**

Terah had married two wives. The name of the first was **Tuna**, and from her **Abraham was born.** She died. After her, he married one whose name was **Tahdef**, and **she bore Sarah.** This is why Abraham said to the king of Egypt, "**Sarah is my sister.**"

When Abraham was **99 years old**, God came down and gave Sarah a son. When Abraham was **100 years old, Sarah bore his son Isaac**, whom God had given to Abraham.

When **Isaac was 12 years old, Abraham desired to sacrifice Isaac on Debre Manos** (Mount of Delight), the place where our Lord, our God, and our Savior Jesus Christ was crucified for the sake of the children of Adam. **The name of that place is Golgotha**, and God created Adam on that spot.

In that same place, **Abraham saw a ram caught in the thicket.** In that place, the body of our father **Adam was buried.** In that place, **Melchizedek dwelt.** And in that place, **David saw the Angel of God holding the sword of destruction** over Jerusalem.

Abraham offered Isaac upon the altar as a representation of the Crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of our father Adam and his children. For our Lord, our God, and our Savior Jesus Christ said, "**Your father Abraham desired to see My Day, and he saw it**" (John 8:56).

The ram that Abraham saw caught in the thicket instead of Isaac is a representation of the Crucifixion of our Lord, our God, and our Savior Jesus Christ.

Abraham offered Isaac to sacrifice him at the time of the first building of Jerusalem. For when **Melchizedek, the Priest of God, was revealed in his humanity,** the kings of the earth and the nations came to him from every side to receive his blessing.

These are the kings who came to him: **Agutemalnig**, King of Elegenderwa; **S'a'el Abarg**, King of Dalazor (who was under the King of S'a'el); **Kargun**, King of Elmo; **B'arel**, King of Ima'imra; **B'erel**, King of Sodom; **Beri'us**, King of Agyat; **Siyin**, King of Amel'on; **Silayin**, King of Dam; **Hanan**, King of Damascus; and **Begatar**, King of Gadam.

I shall tell you, O my son Clementos, when these kings saw **Melchizedek, the King of Peace and the Priest of God**, and when they heard his word, **they greatly magnified and honored him.** They asked him to go with them to their cities.

But Melchizedek told them that **God had commanded him to dwell in that place** (Golgotha), so he could not go with them. These kings then consulted among themselves to **build a temple with their wealth.** They built the temple and gave it to him. **He named it Jerusalem** (city of peace).

After this, a messenger from the kings of Tema came to Melchizedek. When he saw him, he **greatly honored him and gave him many gifts.**

The kings continued to exalt and honor him, and they called him the **Father of Kings.** Others said that Melchizedek would not die because David said, "**You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek**" (Psalm 110:4). But David did not say he would not die. **How could he not die when he was of the race of man?**

But the Most High God magnified and honored him and made him His priest. **Moses did not record in the Torah the beginning of the life of Melchizedek**, the son of Peleg, the son of Arphaxad.

In the days of Abraham, a king reigned in the East whose name was **Kermes**. He had four sons, and he built great cities and named them after his sons: **Amerya, Qerin, and Leyu**. After a year, this king went to an island, built a rampart in each of them, and **named the ramparts after his wife.**

The people of the land made an image of him and bowed down to his wife. When **Sarah, the wife of Abraham, died**, Abraham married another wife whose name was **Manterban**, the daughter of Beqetr, King of Dam.

When **Isaac was 40 years old, Eliezar went to seek Rebekah** to be his wife. **Abraham died at the age of 175 years.** His sons, Isaac and Ishmael, buried him beside his wife, Sarah.

When **Isaac was 60 years old, Rebekah conceived.** When the time of her delivery approached, she went to Melchizedek. He blessed her, prayed over her, and interceded for her to the Most High God, saying, "**You shall have two males in your womb.**"

"**These two shall become two rulers over two nations, and the elder shall serve the younger.** They shall quarrel among themselves, and there shall be no love between them. The children of the elder shall kill the children of the younger."

"**And I shall serve the one born from the younger, and he shall be called the Son of the Most High God, and he shall be the Living One who shall be crucified on a tree to remove the curse** (of Adam)."

Isaac built a new city and named it **Ayyel**. When Isaac was 60 years old, **seven kings built Jericho** (Yariko): the King of Algalgin, the King of Basan, the King of Amorion, the King of Geba'on, the King of Zergisenos, and the King of Qarnaben.

These seven kings built their own ramparts in Jericho. In those days, the King of Egypt built a city and named it **Mesr** (Egypt).

When **Isaac was 130 years old** and **Jacob was 70 years old, God blessed Jacob.** Jacob received the blessing of Isaac by deceit (sin).

As Jacob was traveling on the road, **he took seven stones, placed them, and slept.** In his dream, he saw a **ladder of fire reaching up to heaven.** The Angels of God were ascending and descending on that ladder, and **God was sitting upon it.** When he awoke from his sleep, he prophesied about that place, saying, "**This place is the House of God** (Beth-El)."

"**And this is the Gate of Heaven.**" He took those stones and erected them as an **altar to God.** He anointed them with holy oil. There, Jacob vowed to give a tithe of all his possessions as a holy offering to God. **This is the mystery that Jacob saw.**

O my son Clementos, the mystery that Jacob saw prophesies about the future. It signifies **the coming of Christ to this world.** The **ladder** signifies the **Crucifixion.** The **Angels ascending and descending** signify the **Annunciation to Zacharias, the Virgin Mary, and the shepherds.** God sitting on the ladder signifies the **Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** The place that Jacob saw is a **type of the Church** (Beth-El).

The **stones** he erected are the **type and likeness of the Holy Ark** (Tabot). Their anointing with holy oil is the **type of the Holy Chrism** (Miron). And Jacob's vow to give a tithe of his possessions as a holy offering is the **type of the Holy Eucharist.**

Jacob traveled from that place to **Laban**, his mother's brother (his uncle). On the way, he saw a **sheep's well**, and its mouth was covered with a **great stone** (which was difficult to move).

Rachel, Laban's daughter, was standing there with the sheep near the well. Jacob took and removed that stone from the mouth of the well. He took the water-drawer from Rachel's hand and watered the thirsty sheep that were with Rachel. After watering the sheep, **Jacob approached her and kissed her.**

Jacob opening the mouth of the deep well is a type of Holy Baptism, whose mystery was hidden from eternity.

Pay attention, O my son Clementos, that Jacob could not kiss Rachel before he opened the mouth of the well and watered the sheep from it. Likewise, I say that it is not right for people to enter the Church without being baptized, for **after they are baptized, they become the sheep of Christ.**

Moses the Prophet also said in the Torah that Jacob served Laban for 20 years for Rachel, his daughter, whom he loved more than all his daughters, because Rachel's beauty was superior to that of her sister Leah.

Similarly, Moses and the Israelites whom he redeemed from...

Pay attention, O my son Clementos, that Jacob could not kiss Rachel before he opened the mouth of the well and watered the sheep from it. Likewise, I say that it is not right for people to enter the Church without being **baptized in the Holy Spirit**, for **after they are baptized, they become the sheep of Christ.**

Moses the Prophet also said in the Torah that Jacob served Laban for 20 years for Rachel, his daughter, whom he loved more than all his daughters, because **Rachel's beauty was superior to that of her sister Leah.**

Similarly, this story points to the mystery of God redeeming the Israelites from the oppression and slavery of Pharaoh through Moses.

Laban, by deceit, gave Jacob Leah, who was ugly (of bad appearance), to marry, and did not give him Rachel, who was beautiful. **Leah, who was ugly, used to veil herself so as not to be seen by Rachel.**

The one of bad appearance (Leah) signifies the wicked Jews who strayed into idol worship and abandoned God. **Rachel signifies those who accepted our Lord, our God, and our Savior Jesus Christ** and whose hearts God enlightened, and they worshipped Him.

When **Jacob was 69 years old, he begot Reuben** (Reubel). After him, he begot his brothers: **Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Gad, Asher, Dan, and Naphtali.** These twelve sons are the blessings God gave to Jacob.

When **Isaac was 180 years old, he died.** His sons, **Jacob and Esau,** embalmed him and buried him beside the tomb of his father **Abraham**.

After this, **Leah, Jacob's wife, died**, and they buried her beside the tomb of Abraham. Then, **Judah, Jacob's son, married a Canaanite woman.** Because of this, **Jacob greatly grieved,** and he said to his son Judah, "**In the name of the God of Abraham and Isaac, your seed shall not be mingled with the seed of the Canaanites.**"

Judah refused and did not listen to his word. However, **he did not beget children from her** because the Most High God heard Jacob's intercession and **did not mingle the seed of the Canaanites with his seed.**

After this, **Judah slept with Tamar**, and she bore him **Perez and Zerah**. In those days, **Jacob went with his children to the land of Egypt.** They lived in Egypt for **17 years.** When **Jacob was 147 years old, he died.** At that time, **Joseph was 52 years old.** His son Joseph embalmed him and buried him in the land of Egypt for a time.

After **52 years**, Joseph took the body (bones) of his father Jacob out of Egypt and brought it to the tomb of his fathers, **Abraham and Isaac.**

Judah begot Perez, and Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab, and Amminadab begot Nahshon.

Nahshon was greater than all the generations of Judah. Amminadab married the daughter of **Eleazar, the son of Aaron the Priest. From Amminadab, the Priesthood was established in the House of Israel, and from Nahshon, the Kingship was established among them.**

Observe, O my son Clementos, how the Kingship was established for the children of Israel through Judah. Nahshon begot Salmon, and Salmon begot Boaz from Rahab (a woman of Jericho). Rahab was from the lineage of kings.

The Most High God did not defile Lot because he slept with his daughters, and it was not counted as a disgrace upon him. Rather, **he did a good deed because he helped Abraham in his journey** and received the Angels with faith.

Therefore, **God established kings from Rahab, who was from the seed of Lot.** From her lineage, the wife of **Solomon, the son of David**, who was of the seed of Abraham, was born. Solomon married **700 wives, who were concubines.**

Solomon did not beget any children from any of these concubines because the Most High God did not desire to mingle the seed of the Canaanites with the seed of the pure people, from whom our Lord Jesus Christ was to be born in the flesh.

All the wives of Solomon were from the seed of the Canaanites. The holy books of **Moses, the Prophet of God,** tell us that **Levi, the son of Jacob, went with his father to the land of Egypt.** From his seed, **Moses, Joshua, and Caleb** were born while the Israelites were in the land of Egypt.

When Moses was thrown into the river, **Thermutis, Pharaoh's daughter, took him and raised him in her house.** When **Moses was 40 years old, he killed Nabum, Pharaoh's cupbearer,** and fled to **Reuel, the Priest of Midian.**

There, he married Reuel's sister and begot two children. He begot the two children when he was 52 years old. **The entire time of Moses' life was 120 years.** He lived in the land of Egypt for 40 years, in the land of Midian for 40 years, and he ruled the children of Israel in the wilderness for 40 years.

After the death of Moses, **Joshua, the son of Nun, ruled the people for 34 years.** After him, **Chushan-Rishathaim** (Kus Al'u) ruled them for **60 years.** After him, **Othniel, the son of Kenaz, Caleb's brother,** ruled for **40 years.** After him, the children of Israel were enslaved to **Eglon, the King of Moab, for 18 years.**

After this, God saved them from his hands. After him, **Ehud, the son of Gera,** ruled them for **80 years.** In the **77th year** of Ehud's rule, **4,000 years were completed from Creation.** After him, **Jabin** ruled them for **20 years.**

After him, **Deborah and Barak** ruled them for **40 years.** After them, the **Midianites** ruled them for **7 years.** God saved them from their hands through **Gideon**, who ruled them for **40 years.** After him, **Abimelech** ruled them for **3 years.** After him, **Tola, the son of Puah,** ruled them for **23 years.**

After him, **Jair the Gileadite** arose and ruled the Israelites for **22 years.** After him, the **Philistines** (Elofly) ruled them for **18 years.** After that, God saved them through **Jephthah**, who sacrificed his daughter.

Jephthah ruled them for **6 years.** After him, **Ibzan of Bethlehem** ruled them for **7 years.** After him, **Elon** ruled them for **10 years.** After him, the **Philistines** ruled them for **40 years.**

After him, **Abdon, the son of Hillel the Pirathonite** (Elum Ze-bulawi), ruled them for **8 years.** After him, the **Philistines** ruled them for **40 years.**

After that, God saved them through the powerful **Samson**, who ruled the people for **12 years.** After him, the children of Israel were without a ruler for **12 years.**

After this, **Eli the Priest** arose and ruled them for **40 years.** After him, **Samuel the Prophet** ruled them for **12 years.**

Then the people did wickedly before God, and He **made Saul king over them.** He was the first king to rule over the children of Israel, and he ruled them for **40 years.** In his days, **Goliath the Mighty** appeared and oppressed the children of Israel and killed their young men.

After this, God sent **David the Prophet, and he killed Goliath.** The Philistines killed Saul because he abandoned God and sought divination from demons. After him, **David, the son of Jesse, reigned over Israel for 40 years.** After him, **Solomon, his son, reigned.** He did great works and sent many ships to the land of Ophir, which brought him gold from that country for **43 months.**

He also built many cities, and he built a great city in the wilderness and named it **City of the Sun** (Hagere Ts’e? ay). The **glory of Solomon greatly increased, and his fame was heard in all lands.** His wisdom, glory, and wealth were abundant.

The **Queen of Sheba** came to him and submitted to him. Also, **Hiram, the King of Tyre and Sidon,** came to him. He greatly loved Solomon, helped him, and did all his will, for he greatly loved David, his father. **But David's reign was before Hiram's.**

Solomon married 1,000 wives (concubines). Because he greatly loved them, **they corrupted his wisdom and turned him away from the worship of God to the worship of idols.** He died after reigning for **40 years.**

Hiram, the King of Tyre and Sidon, also erred and denied God when he saw Solomon's corruption. He called himself **God**, saying, "**I dwell in the heart of the seas like God, for I am a god.**" When **Nebuchadnezzar the King** heard his report, he went to him and **killed him.**

The land was defiled with idol worship and fornication. In Jerusalem, sacrifices were offered to demons. In the days of **Rehoboam**, the kingdom of the House of David was divided and became two parts. In the **fifth year of his reign, Shishak, the King of Egypt, invaded Jerusalem and took all that was in the House of God.**

He took all the gold and silver wealth that David and Solomon had gathered. He strengthened himself and said to the Jews, "**This gold and silver wealth is not what you gathered for yourselves. It is what your fathers brought from the land of Egypt when they fled from Pharaoh.**"

Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, died, and the days of his reign were **17 years.** After him, **Abijah, his son, reigned** when he was **20 years old.** He did wickedly before God, and he died.

After **3 years**, **Asa, his son, reigned** after him. He did good before God. He **removed idol worship and abolished fornication from Jerusalem.** He **banished his own mother from the kingdom** because she built a house for idols. The days of his reign were **40 years.** After him, **Jehoshaphat, his son, reigned.**

Jehoshaphat did not walk in the way of his father. He loved the people of the House of Ahab and made an alliance with them. He built many ships and sent them to the land of Ophir to bring him gold from that country. **God sank his ships in the sea.**

The days of his reign were **25 years.** After him, **Jehoram, his son, reigned** when he was **32 years old.**

In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God. This is the preparation that **Peter revealed to Clementos, his disciple.** Saint Peter said to his disciple Clementos: When **40 days were completed after the Resurrection of our Lord, our God, and our Savior Jesus Christ,** He desired to ascend into the heavens and return to His glory and glorious dwelling. Then, **He led us up to the Holy Mountain.**

After this, **He took me, James, John, the sons of Zebedee, and the Holy Mary**, and He ascended with us, leaving the remaining disciples at the foot of the mountain. **He breathed upon us and said to us, "Receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit."** He also said to us, "**Do not acquire gold, or silver, or a traveling bag for your journey.** Do not carry a staff or anything else.**"

"**Know that I have given you the authority to lay your hands upon the sick and heal them. For the Gift of the Holy Spirit shall be your authority in all the world.** And behold, **I send you to where the Father commanded Me.** I have given you good gifts by Grace, and **you also give freely (by grace).**"

"**And in every place where you gather in My Name, I shall be present with you.**"

"And then my Holy Teacher said to me: '**O Clementos, this mystery which you seek from me is great, and it is not revealed to every person, for our Lord Jesus Christ taught us this mystery before His Ascension.** Therefore, it is not fitting that I should reveal everything to you, for **you cannot bear it.**'

Following this, I, **Clementos**, persisted in my entreaty to my teacher, **Saint Peter**, that he should explain to me everything that our Lord Jesus Christ had revealed to him. And when Peter saw that I desired to know the many mysteries from him, and that I was weeping and distressed as I pleaded, he acknowledged it and said to me, '**Bring paper and write down everything that I shall reveal to you.**'

He then said: 'Then he took me and brought me up to the **Mount of Olives**, to the place where our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ascended into heaven. **Peter wept with a great lamentation, and he blessed me with the sign of the Cross** and said, "**O my Lord Jesus Christ, help me by Your power, that I may reveal Your mysteries to this, Your disciple, Clementos.**"

Saint Peter continued his prayer and **prostrated himself 40 times without ceasing; and I also prostrated myself with him.** After he had prostrated himself 40 times, he turned his face towards me. At this time, I saw a **great light emanating from him, like the brightness of the sun, and from his mouth, something like a flame of fire was issuing.** At that moment, **great fear and dread came upon me, and I fell upon my face to the ground.**

Saint Peter took my hand and raised me up from where I had fallen. He comforted me, saying, '**Do not be afraid, O my son Clementos. When you saw the miraculous and wonderful things which we saw with our**

Lord Jesus Christ, you were astonished, and you could not speak because of the great fear and heavy dread that came upon you. Even to us, His disciples, He revealed only a little from the greatness of His Majesty, as much as we could bear.'

And he said to me, '**Guard everything that I tell you with caution, for in the latter days, others will come who will not believe my word, nor your teaching. And they will also not believe the preaching of all the apostles.**'

Again, he said to me, '**Listen well, O my son Clementos,** when our Lord Jesus Christ desired to ascend into heaven, He brought me up to this holy mountain. Separating me from the other apostles, He said to me, "**O Peter, do not fear, for I am the foundation of the Church, and upon you I will build the Church.**"'

And I bowed before Him and asked, 'How did You create the heavens and the earth? And before You created them, where was the place where You resided? And where was the place where You were praised? For nothing that You created before that is known to us. And how would Your Kingship be known, since there is no place that can contain Your Kingdom? And how would You manifest Yourself?'

My Lord answered me and said to me, '**O Peter, now you have asked Me a wondrous thing; the question you have asked is one that the human mind cannot bear.** But since I know that you desire to know this mystery, I will reveal everything to you that you can comprehend.'

And He said to me, '**I AM the Place (Space) that contains all; it is I who subsist in all.** I was upon My throne of glory by the wealth of My Grace. **The Father is with Me, and the Holy Spirit is with Me.** There is no prior or subsequent among Us. There is no first or last among Us; **We have no beginning and no end.**

Our being, Our existence, is everywhere. The greatness of Our power is found everywhere. All that We created exists beneath Us. Our length and Our breadth cannot be measured by the human mind. **We can do all things, but all cannot comprehend Who We are, for We are above all.** The greatness of Our power contains all things.

We have no left or right; We have no inside or outside. Outside is Us; inside is Us. Our glory and the wealth of Our Grace are from Us. We need absolutely nothing from any external source. **The Father is Righteousness and Truth. I am Mercy and Forgiveness. The Holy Spirit is Power and Wisdom.**

There is no heaven that can contain Us, and no earth that can bear Us. We do not change from one essence to another. We do not move from place to place. The eye of man does not see Us, and the study or reasoning of man cannot comprehend Us.

There is no addition or lack in Us. **The Father is Mind (or Intellect); I am Will (or Pleasure); and the Holy Spirit is Power.** We are not many, and We are not separated. Differentiation does not find Us, nor does corruption find Us. **The Father created all things through Me, and it was fulfilled by the Holy Spirit.**

The Father is Speaker (or Utterance); I am Word; and the Holy Spirit is Life. There is nothing like Us, for We are beyond all comparison. There is nothing that can be like Us, for We are above all. **My Father is Fire; I am His Light; and the Holy Spirit is His Heat.** My Father is the Sun; I am His Brightness; and the Holy Spirit is His Heat.

My Father is Water; I am its Taste; and the Holy Spirit is Life. My Father is Glory; I am Power (or Wealth); and the Holy Spirit is Grace. Without Us, there is no creation. Before the heavens were created, I was with the Father. **My Father is Majesty; I am Grace; and the Holy Spirit is Fulfillment.**

I am in the Father and the Holy Spirit; and the Father is in Me. **My Father is Wisdom; I am Word; and the Holy Spirit is the Sound (or Voice) of the Word.** It is We who created all things by Our Wisdom. We are the First; **We have no beginning and no end.**

Our time is not known among creatures. We are before time and ages. Nothing can approach Us. The thought of man, nor the intellect of the angels, can comprehend Us, for **We are above all thoughts.** Our praise is from Ourselves.

We have no beginning and no end. **Out of the abundance of Our Love, We willed to create the world.** This was so that Our Kingship might be known, and Our Sovereignty and Victory might be known, and the greatness of Our Power and the wealth of Our Glory might be known. **The Father said to Me and to the Holy Spirit, 'Let Us create fire, waters, and winds (spirits), and all other things.'**

We created the pure heavens with the waters from the beginning. The earth was also with the water, not yet fully firm. All these things were. After this, We created the pure heavens so that Our work might be upon them, and We resided there.

O Peter, your discerning mind cannot understand the mystery of the Trinity from this thing that you have heard. After this, We took pure waters and created from them **100 heavens, which are bright and lofty,** and are below the heaven of Our work. And the light that We created while We were on high exists within those heavens.

The light exists in the heavens **without change and without end,** for the return of all things is to Us, and all are in Our hands. When We finished creating the 100 heavens, We created others **in an instant by the Word.**

Then, by Our wisdom, **We placed in them something that has no limit** and nothing else knows it except Us. Then We gathered all the waters that are beneath the heavens, whose name is **Fasik** (Partition or separation)..."

"And we created them. Before this, the heavens were mingled with the waters, and the earth was with the water and not yet firm. All things were in this form. Following this, **We created the heavens so that Our work might be upon them, and We reside on them.**

O Peter, your discerning mind cannot understand the mystery of the Trinity from this thing you have heard. Behold, We took pure waters and created from them **three heavens, which are bright and lofty.** Our work is upon them, and the light We created is the uppermost light.

The light exists in the heavens **without end and without change.** The destination and origin of all things are with Us; everything exists within Our palms. When We finished creating the seven heavens, We immediately created **seven other heavens by Our Word.**

And in them, by Our wisdom, **We created other things that are numberless.** None knows them except Us. We then gathered all the waters together; the place where We gathered the waters that are beneath the heavens is called **Ruffasik**. This single place encompasses the entire world.

We created all things, each with its own nature of creation, and We created the nine orders of angels, each with their own form and nature. Their forms are distinct according to their orders. One order sees the other, and all are different in their species. Among the angels, there are those with many eyes, and those with many faces.

Some of them were created with their **entire body being burning fire.** Among them, there are those who are **spirit alone**, and others who were created as **spirit and fire**. Yet all of them sing praises and worship with an

unending voice that never ceases. The distance from one rank of angels to another is like the distance you see between heaven and earth.

The number of these angels that have wings and never cease from praising Us is **ten thousand times ten thousand, and ten thousands of ten thousands** (myriads of myriads). The **Seraphim and Cherubim** praise Us with an unceasing voice, each in their own manner, within the **three churches** (tabernacles) of light and fire.

We created the Heavenly Jerusalem above the water, which is above the third heaven.

It overshadows the earthly Jerusalem. Its structure is of **light and brilliance**, and its pillars are of **fire**, adorned with great majesty. Our Temple is a **burning fire**, and the Ark within it is made of such **light** that no one can look upon it. The entirety of the Ark is light and splendor, and it is encompassed by majesty and holiness.

Light and the wealth of Grace surround it. A sweet fragrance issues from it, a perfume so wonderful that nothing like it exists in the entire world. Darkness does not approach the light within it, and its breadth, length, and height are completely unknowable to created beings. **Our dwelling is in it, toward the East.**

'Behold, O Peter, I will reveal to you **what eye has not seen, ear has not heard, and what has not entered into the heart of man.** We performed Our work from light, fire, and majesty, and **four living creatures** bear it, which have many eyes.

From their mouths issues something like a **flame of fire**. They have the face of a man, the face of a calf (or creature), the face of an eagle, and the face of a lion. The four of them stand on the right and on the left. The wings of all of them are **burning fire**, and beneath them are **chariots of fire** that burn.

They are upon two seas, one of fire and the other a greater one of wind (spirit). Beneath them flows a sea that pours out into the Garden of Delight.

A sweet fragrance, greater than all good perfumes, is there. Where the sea of fire is, the place becomes windy, and there flows a sea of light whose **beginning and end are not known.** None in heaven or on earth knows its origin or where it goes or where it enters, and a **great darkness surrounds it**—a place without light. All things that are unlike the light are there.

O Peter, Our praise is from Ourselves, **without silence and without end or limit.** We do not diminish Our divinity, nor do We desire increase. **We are the First and the Last,** and everything is in Our palms. We made the clouds to be beneath the soles of Our feet.

We commanded the **Seraphim and Cherubim** to tread upon the shoulders of the winds. We look upon the earth and cause it to shake. The eyes of the angels cannot look upon Us, but they only praise Us and sanctify Us. **It is We who appointed the two chiefs of the two ranks of angels.**

And We commanded them to circle Our dwelling place: the first is **Michael**, who is the Angel of Wrath and Killing, and the second is **Gabriel**, the Messenger and the Announcer of Salvation and Peace.

The names of the two other chiefs are **Suruel and Rufael**, and they are the messengers of news. Gabriel resides in the heaven, and his armies surround the dwelling of light, and **We are above all.**

If We will to do anything, there is nothing in all creation that can hinder Us. The intelligence and wisdom of the angels cannot comprehend Us, and eyes do not touch Us. We are not separated from Our mercy; **Our mercy removes Our wrath, and Our forgiveness tempers Our wrath.** We do not respond to judgment according to what is deserved, except with **Justice, Mercy, and Forgiveness.**

We create all things without labor. We draw the distant near and distance the near. We see all things, but no one sees Us. We are in all things, and We work through Our power, salvation, and Our dominion that is set over everything We created.

We do not seek glory from what We created; Our glory is from Ourselves. **All power is from Our power.**

Our Grace exceeds all grace, and Our Glory is greater than all glory.

Pay attention, Peter, and understand from My works that I am the Lord God, for every skilled worker is known by his craft.

When My Lord, My God, and My Savior **Jesus Christ** spoke to me concerning the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the creation of the waters and the winds, I understood and knew that the Lord is the Creator of all things.

He said to me again, '**Understand, Peter, that summer and winter exist because of Me, for I am the God of summer and winter.** I dwell with the Father and the Holy Spirit **without separation** in perfect unity. There is no distinction among Us.

We bring down the rain and water the earth, and We cause the seas to become dry land, and the dry land to become sea. We cause the rivers to dry up, and We send a small wind from the sea of winds, and it destroys many countries. **We build high mountains and hills and cause springs to flow into the rivers.**

See, O Peter, how We send fire from the Sea of Fire, which is in the uppermost heavens, and it burns many countries. We perform many miracles and wonders, and all this is by the greatness of Our power. We calm the waters in the clouds, and We send hail and frost upon the earth.

Understand then, Peter, that all creation, both of flesh and spirit, and all the limits of all creation—that the earth causes them to sprout forth—We created all together, for there is no other besides Us. We created in an instant what is known and what is intangible without support, and what is tangible and what does not pass away, and there is no one who knows all this except Us. **We hung the heaven, and We established the earth upon the waters, and We set the winds in place.**

O Peter, if I had not been incarnate from the Holy Virgin Mary, I would not have created Adam, nor the heavens, nor the earth.

O Peter, if I had not been incarnate, the wealth of My glory would not have been known..."

"**O Peter, understand this well: all creation of soul and body is that which We created.** We also created the number of plants. And the earth, along with the plants called *sih?n,* We created together. **There is no other God besides Us.** In an instant, We created everything visible and invisible, what is tangible and intangible, what passes away and what does not pass away. None knows all this except Us. **We are the ones who suspended the heaven without a pillar, and We created the earth upon the waters, and We set the winds in place.**

O Peter, if I had not willed to be incarnate from the Holy Virgin Mary, I would not have created Adam, nor the heavens, nor the earth.

O Peter, if I had not become man, the wealth of My glory and My praise would not have been known. **O Peter, had I not loved you, I would not have revealed this mystery to you.** Behold, I am now revealing the mystery to you. If I had not loved humanity, I would not have revealed Myself to them in this flesh that I assumed. If I had not chosen the Holy Virgin Mary, I would not have created the plants (or the cosmos, *?e?w?n*).

O Peter, I will give you all that you have asked and reveal My mysteries to you, **for I know your love is greater than all creation.** No one knows the beauty of My Godhead, and no one sees Me, **except only those who have the true faith.** And I reveal Myself to the faithful in the majesty of My Godhead.

Then Saint Peter said to me, 'O my son Clementos, when our Lord Jesus Christ spoke to me these words, I saw Him stretch out His hands toward heaven and earth. **And heaven and earth became like a scroll in a small piece of paper (or parchment), and He gathered them into the palm of His hand.**

And He said to me, "**O Peter, draw near your ear to My palm and listen to this carefully.**" I drew near to Him and heard the **voices of many people, and much shouting and weeping.** Then He brought me to an awesome place; this place was neither in heaven nor on earth. He said to me, "**O Peter, where were you?**" And I said to Him, "I do not know, my Lord."

He said to me, "**Lift up your eyes.**" And behold, I saw a **firmament of light** within which was a **curtain of light** whose color was altered. My vision was astonished, and I fell upon my face. Then He took my hand and raised me up, and He asked me, "**What did you see? Heaven or earth?**"

And I said to Him, "I saw neither, My Lord and my God." And He said to me, "**Look down.**" And behold, I saw a great abyss of darkness that had no beginning and no end. He said to me, "**Behold what you see. Behold, you saw the heavens, the sun, the moon, and the stars.**"

"You also saw the sea and the rivers that flow. All these were held in His hand. **I, Peter, saw this, and it was not in a dream, but in reality, and it was not in falsehood.** After this, He returned all of them to their places, and we returned to the Mount of Olives as we were before.

Again, our Lord, our God, and our Savior Jesus Christ said to me, "**Turn back!**" And when I turned back, I saw the Heavenly Jerusalem. And He said to me, "**Know that the heavens and the earth are in My hands.**"

They shall not be moved as you saw; with the wisdom of My Godhead, I completed all this. **I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.** My mysteries and My mercy are not known, and no tongue can declare them. Nevertheless, I will tell you what your mind cannot comprehend.

For I have given you the **keys of the Kingdom of Heaven,** which the gates of Hell shall not prevail against, so that **you may shut and open to whomever you wish.**"

And then He said to me, "**I am the First, and I am the Last.** I am the one who kills, and I am the one who gives life. I am the one who afflicts and the one who heals. **I am in the Father and in the Holy Spirit, and the Father and the Holy Spirit are in Me, and I am One in the Trinity.**

Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Who is he that shall stand before Me? **I created Adam in My image and in My likeness, and I breathed upon him.**

I placed upon him a **rational soul (spirit)** which is immortal. It is not known by sign or likeness, nor is it known by the likeness of the angels. **I made him to oppose the Devil, who fell from his throne in the heavens.**

O Peter, the Father revealed to you that **I am His Son**, and He taught you that **I am One with Him.** O Peter, behold, **We created Adam at the time We created the angels.** We built the Church as the House of My Grace, and in it I appointed rivers and plants.

That spiritual Church is exalted above all the mountains by the measure of the Holy Spirit.

And I asked and said to Him, "My Lord, what is the measure of the arm of the Holy Spirit?" And He said to me, "**The measure is the length of My arms and hand that I stretched out upon the Cross.**"

"The measure of this is **from East to West.** O Peter, the spiritual Tree that I planted in the Garden, and in it I made all good things so that I might fulfill My glory and My praise through its fruit—I made the Garden to be **the likeness of the Church which is in heaven.**

I prepared this Church for the faithful and for the virgins. **The length and breadth of the Church is the measure of the Garden of Delight (Eden),** which I made the dwelling place of the spiritual children of Adam.

I sent the thief (on the right) before Me into the Garden to proclaim the news of My Ascension to the Father in the heavens. O Peter, I will reveal My mysteries to you, for you have asked Me, and **you shall see with your eyes in the heavens with the Father.**"

At that time, I bowed before Him and said, "My Lord and my God, You know how much I love You and that I believe in You. Behold, You have taught me the greatness of Your glory and Your majesty. Now, teach me everything: how the heavens, the angels, and the authorities were created; the nature of their order, and their appearance—whether their appearance is like that of man, or like a shadow. Do they have breadth and height?"

"At what time did You create them? Was it before You created the heavens and the earth, or after? In what month and in what hour were they created by Your divine power?"

"Can they sin like humans? Are they endowed with intellect, hearing, sight, and thought? Do they move? Is their appearance uniform, or does it differ?"

"And how can the sound of their voice issue from them, since they do not have flesh? How can speech be known from a creature that has no tongue? What will happen after the resurrection of the dead?"

My Lord Jesus Christ answered and said to me, "**O Peter, behold, you have asked Me a wondrous thing, which the intellectual thought of men cannot attain.** Now, listen and pay attention to what I tell you. **The first month I created was Nisan, which is the month of Miazia (April).**"

"And the day I began creation was **Sunday**, and in the first hour of the day of Sunday, **I created the heaven and all the angels.** And this I did not tell Moses."

"On the day of **Friday**, in the first hour, **I caused the Devil to fall** and cast him down from his throne, because his thought planned to make his own kingdom equal to Mine.

And I removed him from My praise and diminished him from My glory, for he had an evil pride, and he became an example of all evil pride and bad counsel." And I replied to Him, saying, "My Lord, My Savior, and My God Jesus Christ, **why then did You create him, knowing beforehand that he would become a devil through his transgression?**"

And He answered me and said, "**O Peter, behold, I knew beforehand that this transgressor would anger Me.** But I created him so that he would be punished, and I brought judgment upon him so that no other angel would contemplate evil counsel and transgression like the Devil. **He acquired transgression by his own will; no other being made him a transgressor.**

I created him in glory and in mercy. But when I exalted him, and he later rebelled, I cast him down and made him a distinct and distant creature. I made him inferior, and he became hated by all upon the earth; all people hate him."

"**O Peter, just as I created all things with mercy, so I created him too.** And I did not command him to do evil. But he chose to follow what his heart dictated. **I created nothing that I did not know beforehand what would happen in the end.**"

"And those who obey Me shall not abandon what I determined to create without defect. **I created everything I determined with love and knowledge.** I created the Devil with knowledge, and **I exalted him above all the angels** and made him near to Me."

"I knew beforehand that there was no one among all the angels who would disobey My commandment except him, and **I exalted his throne above all the angels, so that he would have no reason against Me** and could not say, 'You exalted other angels who were like me above me.'"

"And because of this, I made My commandment clear to him, to prevent his transgression. Previously, he was near to Me, and he stood before My throne and held the curtain of My Sanctuary, proclaiming praise among the hosts of angels whom I had created beneath him."

"Those who obey Me shall not abandon what I determined to create without defect. **I created everything I determined with love and knowledge.** I created the Devil with knowledge, and **I exalted him above all the angels** and made him near to Me, so that he might hold the highest authority.

I knew beforehand that there was no one among all the angels who would disobey My commandment except him. **I exalted the Devil above all the angels so that he would have no reason against Me** and could not say, 'You exalted other angels who were like me above me.'

If I had not done this, he would have had a reason for his transgression. Previously, he was near to Me, and he stood before My throne and held the curtain of My Sanctuary, proclaiming praise among the hosts of angels whom I had created beneath him.

The creation of the angels was on **Sunday**, in the first hour of the day.

The Lord said to me, "**Gabriel** shall be the chief over all the battling angels, that he may not know the counsel of Satan. My judgment is **Righteousness, Truth, and Mercy.**"

"When Satan fell, I removed him from his position. **In his place, I appointed Gabriel as the chief angel.** I placed him in a magnificent dwelling and commanded him to proclaim grace, salvation, and peace.

Michael shall be the champion over all the warring angels who uphold My praise and My commandments. **Rufael and Urael** are those who bring news. All of them shall stand at My dwelling place, and they shall ascend with My praise, and they shall pray to Me on their own behalf and bow down on behalf of sinners who believe in Me."

"**O Peter, the Church which you build is a dwelling place for all those who believe in Me,** built with My grace from before time."

"**O Peter, behold, I have given you the key of the Kingdom of Heaven for the forgiveness of sins,** and I have made the heavens, the earth, and even the angels to be obedient to you."

"O Peter, before the heavens and the earth, there was nothing I created, and **all creation is fleeting** (temporal)."

And I asked Him again, "**My Lord and my God, why did You create Adam, knowing that he would transgress your commandment?**"

My Lord and God answered me and said, "I have already answered what you asked. Now I will reveal everything to you. First, **I willed to create Adam spiritual and bright.** But I created what I loved in heaven. **Adam, however, I created him to be the ruler over the four corners of the world.** I gave him kingship and authority over the earth, that he might know he has dominion over all creatures on this earth. **But I knew beforehand that he would transgress My commandment.**"

"Nevertheless, I created him with **love and mercy**," He said to me. He continued, "You must know, O Peter, that when a farmer sows his seed in the wilderness and loses it, he is sad. But when he reaps thirty, sixty, or a hundredfold instead, he rejoices with great joy, and he forgets his previous sadness. Likewise, **I created Adam, and I pitied him, and I saved him from death.** But when he transgressed My commandment, I brought death upon him, but **I was not saddened** (in My Godhead)."

"O Peter, **I created Adam alive and commanded him to keep My commandments** and to be far from sin. I gave him the right to do what he should do, and I made clear to him both good and evil. I told him not to seek pride like the Devil, who exalted himself in arrogance and fell from his throne. I told you not to eat from the tree that brings forth death."

"If you eat from the tree, you shall surely die. If you do not listen to My word and do not keep My commandment, I shall cast you out of the Garden and settle you on the cursed earth, which shall bring forth thorns and thistles. **But if you do not eat from the forbidden tree and you keep the commandment I gave you, you shall not die, but you shall live forever and be happy**," I told him.

"O Peter, I knew that the Devil would tempt the world and Adam, and that he would bring upon Adam the breaking of My commandment. Therefore, I told him to **'keep My commandment and do not eat from the forbidden tree.'** I created him mortal and alive, knowing he would transgress My commandment, and I created him from **earth mingled with fire, wind, and water.**"

Our Lord Jesus Christ said to Peter, "**O Peter, I have told you the mystery of My Incarnation, that it was for the sake of My humanity that I created Adam, and that I would return Adam to the Garden in the flesh he had put on when he left.** O Peter, I have a hidden mystery that is not known, and I do not wish to reveal it to man." When I heard this word from My Lord and God, I bowed before Him, I pleaded, and I looked up to Him and said: "**My Lord, tell me the nature of the orders of the angels.**"

And He answered and said to me, "**The orders of the angels are many, and their appearances are not uniform.** There are angels with four faces, and some whose entire body is a face, and some who have many eyes, and some whose entire body is eyes, and some whose entire body is a brightness that exceeds the light of the sun.

Among them, there are those with the face of a man, and some with four faces. Among them, there are those with four wings. The names of these angels and archangels are: **Aga'izt** (Dominions), **Silt'anat** (Authorities), **Hayilat** (Powers), **Manabirt** (Thrones), **Arbab** (Lords), **Cherubim** (who have many eyes), and **Seraphim** (who have six wings).

There are nine orders of angels. The distance from one order of angels to another is like the distance between heaven and earth. Among them, there is splendor and light. This light is exceedingly bright, so that they may speak among themselves and marvel at their own creation, and they praise My sublime Name, for I found in their mouths the utterance of the greatness of My majesty.

Among them, there are those who sing, and some who sanctify, and some who praise, and some who give thanks, and some who bless, and some who shout with joy. **Their life is established in this way forever and ever.**

O Peter, **I did not create them to serve Me,** but only willed to endow them with My wealth and My glory, for before I created all creation, **My praise was with Me.**

When I created the angels, **I caused them to praise Me** with pleasant melody and varied exultation. These angels are **spiritual** and do not have flesh. When the angels descend to earth, they have no voice, and the sound of their wings is not heard.

There is no trace from the steps of their feet, and their swiftness is lighter than the wind. They are sent to carry out the mysteries of My message, and **they guard those who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.** To all who believe in Me, I send two guardian angels for each person—one on the right and one on the left—and they guard them from all evil. But those who do not believe in Me, I distance them from My forgiveness and My mercy.

When I heard this word from Him, I bowed before Him and said to Him, "My Lord and my God, Only-Begotten Son, since You came into the world for the salvation of humanity, **tell Your servant the news of the Garden.** Is the Garden in heaven or on earth?

What is the nature of the tree that imparts the knowledge of good and evil, from which You commanded Adam not to eat? What is the meaning of the Tree of Life? And how did Adam and Eve clothe themselves with fig leaves in the Garden? **Are the sun and moon there? And is there day and night?**

Is there food and drink in the Garden? Are the trees there like the trees of this world? **Is there cold and heat there?** Is there hunger and thirst? Do those who dwell there need clothes and garments, or are these things not there? Is there a strong, man-made building there? **And from where do the four rivers originate that water the earth?**

Which is greater? The Kingdom of Heaven or the Garden? And what is the measure of its length and breadth? Is it fleeting, like this world, or will it abide forever and ever?"

And the Son of God answered and said to me, "**O Peter, how diligently you seek My mysteries! The Garden, We placed it in Eden, after We created the heaven and the earth, in a place where darkness does not reach, but it abides in light, purity, majesty, and loftiness.**

Its size is equivalent to the distance from East to West of this earth. **And there are three gates within it.** The first, the northern gate, I placed **above Golgotha**, where My body, which I took from Adam, was buried. The second gate, the southern one, I placed **above the Mount of Olives.** And as for you, **O Peter, you shall dwell beneath it.**"

"And the third gate [of the Garden] is located opposite the **Mount Sinai**."

"The Garden is **beneath Our Throne**, toward the East. Its splendor exceeds the light of the sun, and a **sweet fragrance** issues from within it, whose like is absolutely not found on the whole earth. It is also the **dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.**"

"The trees in the Garden are likened to the **angels** that are planted in it. And the four rivers that water the world spring forth from the water that is **beneath My Throne of Glory.** Behold, I have prepared four water channels; these channels pass through the sea of winds and descend swiftly into Eden. From there, the water flows and waters the world."

"Those who dwell there **desire food and drink**, but there is **no cold or heat** in the Garden. The good fragrance that issues from the Garden removes the desire for eating and drinking."

"The trees of the Garden are not like the trees of this fleeting world; **they are the bright and holy angels,** and they do not cease from praising and singing to Me. As for the tree in the Garden that imparts the knowledge of good and evil—**only I know its nature**."

"O Peter, your father Adam also sought to be God and to take dominion over those I appointed him to rule over, just as the Devil did. This is why he ate from the tree from which I commanded him not to eat. **Immediately, he became a servant of lust** (he knew lust)."

"That tree brought forth death, which has two paths: the first is his **desire to be God**, which cannot and should not be; and the second is his **transgression of My commandment**. For when I commanded him, he was not insane. It is not right to judge one who falls into error due to insanity, but **Adam was rational and wise** (sane). Yet, by transgressing My commandment, he lost his mind."

"Adam was not created insane, but was created rational and wise. Because of the abundance of his wisdom, he named all creatures by their names."

"O Peter, **the trees in the Garden are the angels.** In another sense, the trees of the Garden are **We**; the tree that imparts the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden means **We** (the Trinity). **O Peter, I am the Tree of Life and the Tree of Mercy.** Whoever eats from Me shall live the life eternal. My Father is the Tree of Rectitude and the Tree of Righteousness. I am Forgiveness and Mercy, and the Holy Spirit is the Tree of Life."

"O Peter, darkness shall not enter the Garden, nor corruption, for **its entirety is a light that exceeds the light of the sun.** There is nothing comparable to the sweet fragrance there. There is no death, and those who dwell in it have no sickness, no pain, and no sorrow."

"Transgression, defilement, and the defiled shall not enter there. **Praise shall not cease from it day and night,** just like the Heavenly Jerusalem. Its light is greater than the sun, and the measure of this light cannot be expressed by the tongue of man, for My Majesty, My Power, and My Light dwell upon it."

"O Peter, **I glorified the Garden, and I placed it beneath My Throne of Kingship.** O Peter, this Garden is prepared only for My chosen ones who pleased Me during their lifetime. O Peter, there is **no winter or summer** in the Garden, and there is **no lust** of this world, neither eating nor drinking, for **its sweet fragrance satisfies the souls**."

"Those who dwell in the Garden have **no thought of the sorrow of this world.** They shall neither hunger nor thirst, and they shall not seek contention or arrogance, and they shall not perish. They are adorned with Grace, so they do not perish."

"As for the 'fig leaves' that Adam and Eve are said to have worn—**it was not fig leaves, but Grace.** O Peter, the work of the Garden is very wondrous and amazing."

"**But the Kingdom of Heaven is greater, more honored, and more exalted than the Garden.** Whoever is deemed worthy to enter the Kingdom of Heaven shall first enter the Garden and rejoice there, and then, on that day, he shall proceed to the Kingdom of Heaven, **where there is no perishing and no corruption.**"

"O Peter, I have many wondrous gates and dwelling places for the righteous and for the good, within which My Light dwells, which I have prepared for the souls of the righteous and the pure."

"**O Peter, behold, I have given you the key of the Kingdom of Heaven and earth, and I have entrusted everything into your hand.** This glory that I told you about belongs to you. The dwelling place of Light in the heavens is prepared for you and for all who believe in Me," He said to me.

After saying all this, He became silent. Then I bowed before Him and said, "**O Lord, forgive Your servant, and allow him to speak before You.**" And He answered me and said, "**O Peter, speak what you wish, and ask what you desire, for I will not withhold your request.**" And I replied to Him, saying, "O My Lord, tell Your servant **the dwelling place of the righteous and the prophets who believe in You**, and where the faithful shall dwell until Your second coming."

My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ answered and said to me, "**O Peter, I accept your request, and I will tell you the dwelling place of the faithful who believe in Me, of the righteous, the prophets, and others, after My Ascension from earth to My glorious dwelling place.** I will tell you the dwelling place of the pure, and all who were baptized in My name, believed in Me, and repented before they died.

The Garden, which I planted in Eden, is their dwelling place. They shall rest there forever and ever. As for you, who despised this world and left all your possessions and followed Me, **your dwelling place shall be in the Kingdom of Heaven.** You shall inherit good things which **'eye has not seen, ear has not heard, and have not entered into the heart of man,'** where there is no sickness, no pain, no sorrow, and no distress. This I have promised you."

"**O Peter, I will establish you and the eleven apostles whom I have chosen over the twelve tribes of Israel, and you shall judge them according to their deeds.**"

"**I will also cause the priests to dwell in the houses of light, and I will prepare a wondrous dwelling place for each of them according to their greatness.** Understand then, O Peter, the wealth and grace which I have given you, and I will yet give you all that you have asked."

"O Peter, with the wealth of My grace, I created My angels, and My glory overshadows them. **On the Day of Resurrection, I will make the faithful who believe in Me—both men and women—pure, like the spiritual beings (angels) who know not the bitterness of death**; they will be without defect, and death will not have power over them."

"I will grant them the right to see with their eyes and to hear with their ears what issues from the fire, without fear. O Peter, **I have shown you all that will happen on the Day of Resurrection.** Be patient a little longer until you reach a greater rank."

"O Peter, behold, tribulation and distress shall come upon My people after My Ascension into heaven, and they shall be persecuted to the ends of the earth. Their swords shall be broken, and they shall be burned with fire and cast out. **But I will not forsake them, and I will show My power and My wonder upon them.**"

"O Peter, behold, the judgment of the Devil is delayed by a period of *sub???* (a week of years/period of trial). After the *sub???* is fulfilled, I will show My wonders and My grace upon the faithful who believe in Me. **One of them shall chase a thousand, and two of them shall chase ten thousand and thousands of thousands,** until the people marvel at My miracles, My wonders, and My glory."

"O Peter, when I ascend to My Father and sit in My glory from which I am inseparable, **I will send the Paraclete (Holy Spirit) to you and all My disciples, who shall abide with you always.**"

"I will not forsake you, and I will dwell My mercy upon you forever. **O Peter, do not grieve, but keep, know, and put into your heart all that I have told you,** and understand that **you shall find Me in the Kingdom of Heaven when you are hanged** [on the cross]."

"Also, James (Jacob), who was killed, John, who died by the mouths of lions, and all the disciples—**all the disciples who were killed by their enemies shall find Me.** Their hope is great in the Kingdom of Heaven."

"O Peter, understand that My faithful believers will be scattered among all the nations, and their faith will be distinct from others. Because of the faith, they shall be scattered to their respective countries. **The sorcerer Simon (Simon Magus), who follows the path of the Devil and transgresses the Law of Sinai, will rise up against you in opposition.** Because he follows the Satanic path and is a transgressor of the Law, I will destroy him in your opposition."

"After him, many other opposers shall rise up. These are: **Yasdäwy?n, A?l?m, N?b?d?n, Batoq?d?n, A?s?n, Q?r??n, Ferm?n, Badur?n?n, ?nn?s?, ?lmandiy?, Maq?dony?, ?ay??l?nn?, Marq?los, the people of Q?? rey?, the people of ??n?ny?, the people of Lef?ny?, the people of Qardony?, and others who resemble them.**"

"In their days, **famine shall increase more than sufficiency, and death shall abound on the earth.** O Peter, when the cub of the lion (a strong king) returns and enters its place, know and understand that the **time of destruction has arrived.** When you see the increase of death and famine, and when **two kings of their own kindred fight among themselves**, understand that **the earth shall perish.**"

"**Disturbing dreams shall increase**, and **a sign from heaven shall appear on this earth.** Then shall be slaughter and captivity, and **I will deliver the people into the hands of the slaughterers.** I will not hear their prayer nor accept their request."

"The days of these destructive people shall come. **Great persecution and distress shall come upon My faithful people who believe in Me.** They shall cry out and look up to Me with earnest supplication, **whose like has never been in the world from antiquity.**"

"If Adam had pleaded such a supplication when he ate from the forbidden tree and was counted as a transgressor, **he would not have been cast out of the Garden.** Likewise, if such earnest prayer had been offered in the days of Noah, the destruction would not have happened. The destruction of Sodom is also similar [it could have been averted]."

"**O Peter, tell the people not to follow the path of the transgressors.** Convince them to stand firm in the **true faith.** Whoever stands in this faith, protected and guarded from all evil, **shall live forever and inherit My wealth of grace, which 'eye has not seen, ear has not heard, and has not entered into the heart of man,' and which the angels and the Powers (of heaven) have not seen.**"

"O Peter, **woe to the women who are pregnant and nursing in those days!** In those times, **most of My believers shall be killed by the sword.** Stones and churches shall cry out. Waters shall dry up, and rivers shall cease to flow. Thus shall seasons and years pass. The sun, moon, and stars shall be forgotten. **Darkness shall be continuous for three days and three nights** (This will happen in the countries around Jerusalem). Spite and wrath shall increase among the people, and **good things shall vanish from humanity.**"

"The wickedness of the people shall exceed their goodness. Their sin and error shall be great. The fruits of the trees and the wilderness shall diminish. **Demons shall dwell upon people, and false prophets shall rise up.** Wild beasts shall be accustomed to eating human flesh. Because their last time is at hand, they shall divide and share the earth among themselves."

"**After this, the rod of salvation and life shall come forth from the South (T?m?n).** After this, these people shall be crushed upon the mountains. **Behold, a King shall come from the East to awaken those who are sleeping.** Weapons shall abound on the earth, and war shall intensify. **Human corpses shall be piled up like mountains in the fields.** The souls of men shall perish like sheep and lambs."

"Wickedness shall increase, and **the modesty of virgins shall be uncovered.** A father shall deny his son, and a son his father. A servant shall deny his master, and a daughter her mother, and a mother her daughter. **Slaves shall become arrogant over their masters, and masters shall fear like slaves, and slaves like masters.** Young men shall dwell on the high places, and the old men below."

"And because of this, **I will deliver them to slaughter, and they shall be food for the dogs.** The powers of the heavens shall be shaken, and the kings of the earth shall fight among themselves. **All the kings of the earth shall flee from the King of T?m?n (the South).** He shall fight with the four corners of the world."

"He shall bless the kings and **destroy the houses of idols** in his days. He shall abolish slaughter, and **He shall remove sorrow and judgment from humanity.** There shall be peace and tranquility, and sufficiency shall abound on the earth. The evil days shall pass away. **Man shall die when the second plague comes upon the earth.** And behold, after this, **fear, terror, and trembling shall come, which has not been heard from antiquity.**"

"Wickedness shall increase, and **the modesty of virgins shall be uncovered.** A father shall deny his son, and a son his father. A servant shall deny his master, and a daughter her mother, and a mother her daughter. **Slaves shall become arrogant over their masters, and masters shall fear like slaves, and slaves like masters.** Young men shall dwell on the high places, and the old men below."

"And because of this, **I will deliver them to slaughter, and the dogs shall eat them.** The power of the heavens shall be shaken, and the kings of the earth shall fight among themselves. **All the kings of the earth shall flee from the King of T?m?n (the South).** But the King of T?m?n shall fight with the kings from the four corners of the world."

"**He shall subdue the kings and destroy the houses of idols** in his days. He shall abolish slaughter, and sorrow and judgment shall be removed from humanity. **Safety and peace shall be established, and sufficiency shall abound on the whole earth.** The evil time shall pass away. But when the second plague comes, **people shall be overcome with fear and anxiety, believing that they can endure it.** Fear and trembling shall come, the like of which has never been seen. Because of the abundance of fear, the soul shall be troubled."

"**War shall arise, and much blood shall be shed.** The birds of the heaven shall be satisfied from the corpses of those who were killed, and dogs shall eat them. **Few people shall survive.** Those who remain shall ask one another, 'From what nation are you?' And a woman shall ask her friend, 'From what tribe are you?' **A father shall protect his children, and the children their father.**"

"**They shall not trust one another.** A man shall kill his friend, and he shall know nothing else. They shall seize the faithful and **bind their hands with the hair of their heads and their necks with iron chains.** They shall cast them into the rivers, but they shall prevent them from drinking water."

"Again, there shall be great fear, and **the earth shall tremble three times in a single day.** Then, **the King of T?m?n shall rise again.** He resembles a cow (or ox) that destroys, and he has **three horns on his head** (or forehead)."

"He shall destroy all creation with the plague of his wrath. He shall reach the city called Al-Baq, and in that city, **he shall carry out all his desires.** Then, he shall be destroyed there and shall not return to his country, **because he exalted his own head and left the praise of his Creator.** He boasted and praised himself in the greatness of his glory and conceived evil."

"He shall say, 'I created the earth with the firmness of my power.' Because of this, he shall be defeated by the hand of the King of the East. **Behold, I will destroy him and make him a laughingstock throughout all the**

earth. And after that, O Peter, know that I will remember and **honor the land of Egypt, and I will remove its wickedness.**"

"I will abolish its beautiful appearance (splendor). **After the land of Egypt is destroyed for one and a half *sub ???* (a period of time), a miracle shall appear in the islands, and fear shall increase in the sea.** Great slaughter shall occur around the sea. **Defiled people shall enter My Temple from the sea, and they shall destroy My churches and burn them with fire.**"

"**They shall trample upon the Sign of My Cross in their countries.** They shall pursue My faithful and kill them in that place. But they shall be scattered throughout all the earth, just as it was in former times. Evil dreams shall increase, and great fear shall be in all the land, and **hatred shall increase upon the faithful.** But I will not leave them in the hands of their enemies. In that time, **the sun and moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall fall from the sky.**"

"After this, the **King of the East shall come,** and slaughter shall abound among them. A wind shall blow upon the earth, and **the people of Egypt shall perish by grievous famine and by a pestilence that follows the famine.** I will bring death upon the children of Adam, and **My miracles shall appear in the sky.**"

"After this, the King of the East shall go to the land of Egypt and kill those who survived. Again, **he shall kill the people of the West and shall reign over all the earth.** All the countries shall be obedient to him. Because of the multitude of his army, he shall inherit great cities. **He shall rule from end to end, and the sound of his army shall be like a wheeled vehicle (or a thunderous roar).**"

"Because of his terrifying majesty, the hills shall cry out, and **all the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.** There shall be great fear, and **the hills and mountains shall weep like men**—from East to West and from North to South, there shall be weeping."

"**And after this, I will send My grace and My mercy upon all the nations of the earth.** I will hear the prayer and the request of My people who believe in Me and look up to Me."

"But those who oppose Me—**I will raise My rod of plague upon them, and I will kill them and destroy them** , and I will bring **salvation openly upon the earth.**"

"I will show My glory upon those who believe in Me, and the people who were under tribulation shall be **restored to their former state.** Everything that was hidden shall be revealed. **I will establish My mercy upon the earth and raise the children of the dead.**"

"**I will raise the Lion's Cub (or a great King), and He shall chase away all the kings, and He shall crush them.** I will cause him to oppose them, for **I have given him authority.** The rising of the Lion's Cub is like an awakening from sleep. In this manner, **He will be able to inherit the entire area from the direction of the West, which is His kingdom.**"

"Because of this, **envy shall arise against Him.** Understand, O Peter, that after My Ascension to heaven, **kings shall deny My Name and shall kill all the faithful who believe in Me.** The Devil shall raise up these kings and strengthen their hearts."

"The first of these kings to rise shall be named 'A' (?). **This king shall kill James (Jacob), My disciple who is called My brother.** After him, a king named 'N' (?) shall rise. **Behold, this king shall kill you, O Peter.** After him, a king named '?' (?) shall rise. **This king shall kill the Jews.**"

"He shall uproot the root of the Jews. After him, a king named 'N' (?) shall rise, and after him, a king named 'Q' (?), and after him, a king named 'K' (?). After him, kings named 'S' (?), 'A' (?), 'M' (?), '?' (?), 'Q' (?), and 'Q?' (?) shall reign in succession. The last one, **'Q?' (?), is He who shall openly reveal the true faith and shall raise My Sign of the Cross.**"

"**His Name shall be remembered by all generations from the rising of the sun to the setting of the sun.** All the kings of the earth shall be blessed by Him. **He shall judge with righteousness and uprightness,** He shall love righteousness and hate wickedness. **In His days, My miracle shall appear in the sky and on the earth, and My Cross shall be seen by all creation.**"

"I shall dwell with Him, and **I will give Him power and victory.** The faithful shall increase, and they shall conquer their enemies. After Him, kings named **'K, R, A, S' (????) shall reign.** Then, one of their kindred named 'S' (?) shall reign. **He shall kill the two kings (the previous ones) and shall oppose the faithful.** Persecution and tribulation shall occur in his time."

"After him, 'W' (?) shall reign, and after them, a king named **'W?' (?) shall reign.** This king shall be good and of **upright faith.** In his days, **I will reveal My open miracles and wondrous works** to those who believe in My Resurrection."

"Then 'M' (?) shall reign, and He shall be **blessed, of upright faith, and shall judge with righteousness and uprightness.** I will dwell with Him throughout His life. After Him, a king named **'L' (?) shall reign, and He shall be blessed and pure like those before Him.**"

"After Him, a king named **'R' (?) shall reign, and He shall be a betrayer and a transgressor of My commandment, who shall destroy My Law and My order appointed over Alexandria.** After Him, kings named **N, S, ?, and H** (?, ?, ?, ?) shall reign; **they are all betrayers.**"

"After them, **'H' (?) shall reign, whose full name is 'Härq?l'** (Heraclius). He is the one who shall precede My wrath, and **He shall purposely rise to destroy the true faith.** In his time, a different law, which is not good, shall appear, **coming from the cursed Devil.** Because of this treacherous king, **I will send My wrath upon My people and strike them with My rod of plague.**"

"I will destroy them with the talons of wild beasts, like eagles (vultures). **They are the children of the betrayers and the children of the heretics**; they are the children of the serpent, the children of transgression, who eat human flesh. **They are the offspring of a bitter generation, who shed the blood of the righteous,** who strive only to eat defiled and corrupt flesh. They love eating and drinking. **They boast and hate righteousness, they are friends of demons, who fight against My Name and against all who believe in Me.** They are lovers of transgression and haters of rectitude, insane ones who speak with their mouths, mockers of the house of idols, sorcerers, people of Sodom, and the progeny of demons, **who exalt themselves and deceive the face of man.**"

"O Peter, if these people (the righteous) were not constrained to do this (their work) and if these people (the wicked) did not force them to fulfill their will by killing and tormenting, they would not be compelled to do all this. **In the time of these people (the wicked), there shall be great earthquake and trembling.**"

"**People shall establish hatred with all people.** They shall shave their heads and gird their loins, and because of their boundless conduct, they shall appear like another creation. They shall adorn their bodies and flesh and strive to look like demons. **I will drive the people out of the country where they were born.**"

"I will scatter them to every place, **from West to East, from North to South.** They shall destroy many cities wherever they go. **Their kingdom shall reach the countries that worship idols.** They shall be ready to destroy

the houses of kings, and **they shall incite war every day.** The young men among them are the ones who shall carry this out."

"**Their children shall scorn and insult the elders.** They shall do this shamelessly, for they have no mercy. A son shall desire to kill his father, and a father to kill his son, **without righteousness.**"

"**These people shall plunder churches and take gold and silver vessels.** They shall demolish the foundations of those that were built in My Name. As for those who believe in My Name, **they shall cut off their noses and their ears, and they shall blind their eyes, and they shall cut off their hands and feet, and they shall destroy the souls of many.**"

Children shall insult and scorn their parents, and they shall fight with the elders. The elders who are insulted and scorned **are the faithful believers.** They shall insult them **without shame or fear.** A son shall kill his father, and a father his son, **without fear.**

These people shall plunder churches and take vessels made of gold and silver. They shall demolish the churches that were built in My Name and **uproot their foundations.** They shall cut off the **mouths, ears, hands, and feet of the faithful believers** who trust in Me, and by this defiled act without mercy, and they shall destroy (or lay waste to) the regions (villages/districts) with their wrath.

"I will raise the Lion's Cub, and He shall chase away all the kings, and He shall crush them, for I have given Him authority. The rising of the Lion's Cub is like an awakening from sleep. In this manner, **He will be able to inherit the entire area of the West, which is His kingdom.**"

"Because of this, **envy shall arise against Him.** O Peter, understand that **after My Ascension to heaven, many things shall occur.** Kings shall deny My Name and **shall kill all the faithful who believe in Me.** The reason these kings rise to do this is because **the Devil shall raise them up and strengthen their hearts.**"

"The first of these kings to rise shall be named **'A' (?). This king shall kill James (Jacob), My disciple who is called My brother.** After him, a king named **'N' (?)** shall rise. After him, a king named **'Q' (?)** shall rise. After him, a king named **'K' (?)** shall rise. And after him shall reign one named **'S' (?),** and one named **'E' (?)**, one named **'M' (?)**, one named **'A' (?)**, one named **'?' (?)**, one named **'Q' (?)**, and one named **'Q?' (?)** in succession. The last one, **'Q?' (?), is He who shall openly reveal the true faith and shall raise My Sign of the Cross.**"

"**His Name shall be remembered by all generations from the rising of the sun to the setting of the sun.** All the kings of the earth shall be blessed by Him. **He shall judge with righteousness and uprightness,** He shall love righteousness and hate wickedness. **In His days, My miracle shall appear in the sky and on the earth, and My Cross shall be seen by all creation.**"

"I shall dwell with Him, and **I will give Him power and victory.** The faithful shall increase, and they shall conquer all their enemies. After Him, kings named **'K, R, A, S' (????) shall reign.** Then, one of their kindred named **'S' (?) shall reign. He shall kill the two kings (the preceding two) and shall oppose the faithful.** Persecution and tribulation shall occur in his time."

"After him, **'Y, W' (?, ?) shall reign,** and after them, a king named **'W?' (?) shall reign. He shall be blessed and chosen and of upright, good faith.** In his time, **I will reveal My many miracles and wondrous works** to those who believe in My Resurrection."

"Then **'M' (?) shall reign,** and He shall be **blessed, walking in the upright faith, and shall judge with righteousness and uprightness.** I, too, shall dwell with Him throughout His life. After Him, a king named **'L' (?) shall reign, and He shall be blessed and pure like those before Him.**"

"After Him, a king named **'R' (?) shall reign, and He shall be a betrayer and a transgressor of My commandment, who shall destroy My Law and My order appointed over Alexandria.** After Him, **'N, S, ?, H' (?, ?, ?, ?) shall reign; they are also betrayers.**"

"**In those times, people shall rise against people, and kings against kings, and armies against armies.** Love shall depart from them. At that time, **the faithful shall look up and cry out to Me,** but **I will not hear their prayer because of the greatness of their evil deeds** (or: **because they are wicked**)."

"**People shall dig up graves and bring forth the bones of the dead** who were killed in the days of Noah, which have been preserved until their time. **They shall pierce the clothing of men with the weapons they hold.** In their time, **the bones of men shall be scattered upon the earth like the seeds of grain.**"

"**All the cities that dwell by the seashore shall fear them.** Because of their fear, **ships shall sink.** They shall trample upon the ships in their countries. **Their food shall be the fruit of the palm tree.** There is no one who can dare to restrain them from doing what they wish. **They shall build what was destroyed, and destroy what was built.** They shall make the wilderness a path (or highway). **All their boasting shall be in shaving their heads, adorning their fingernails (or hair/body), and arranging their clothes.**"

"**They shall besiege Jerusalem with their armies** and inherit its districts and surrounding areas, from East to West. Again, they shall send armies of another kingdom to seize the area from West to East, and **He shall gather all the kingdoms of the earth into His hand.**"

"**After this, He shall go to Jerusalem, and He shall build what was destroyed and raise its walls, and inherit its districts.** O Peter, **at that time, all the faithful who believe in Me shall rejoice with unending joy.** Behold, they shall burn Damascus and destroy its foundations because of the wickedness of those who dwell in it."

"**Then He shall return to the land of His kingdom with great joy and celebration, and He shall sit upon the throne of His kingdom for many years**, for He shall do My commandment and oppose others with the faithful who believe in Me. **He shall remain for two *sub???* (a period of time), and the King shall be salvation for the faithful by His hand.**"

"And behold, **He shall seize the treacherous people mentioned before**, and **We shall repay them double for the evil they committed against the faithful.** All creation shall wonder at this (what came from the Lion's Cub), for **they say, 'Death shall not come to us.'**"

"From that time, **the children of the transgressors shall not carry weapons,** and the destroyed country shall be built. **The faithful who believe in Me shall rejoice with an unending joy.** Understand, O Peter, that **all this shall happen before My Second Coming to the world, after seventy-two *sub???* and half a *sub???*** have passed."

"O Peter, behold, I have revealed to you all that shall happen in the latter times, and **I have set all the kingdoms of the world before you in the likeness of a vision of four faces:** one the face of an **Eagle**, the second the face of a **Beast**, the third a **Leopard**, and the fourth the face of a **Lion** which is strengthened above all beasts."

"The first, which is called the face of an **Eagle**, is the **King of Babylon.** The second, which resembles the face of a **Beast (or wild animal)**, is the **King of the Children of Hilias (Eldiyos).** The third, which resembles the face of a **Leopard**, is the **King of the Greeks (Yon?n?wy?n).** The fourth, which resembles the face of a **Lion**, is the **King of Rome, who shall be greater and more honored than all kings.**"

"The King of Babylon shall reign for two thousand [years], and the King of the Children of Hilias..."

"The third is symbolized by the Leopard, and the fourth by the Lion. The Lion is stronger than all the beasts. The first one, symbolized by the **Eagle's face**, is the **King of Babylon.** The second, symbolized by the face of a **Beast**, is the **King of the Children of Eldiyos (Hilias).** The third, symbolized by the **Leopard**, is the **King of the Greeks (Yon?n?wy?n).** The fourth, symbolized by the **Lion**, is the **King of Rome, who is the greatest of all.** He shall be honored above all kings."

"The King of Babylon shall reign for five hundred years. The King of the Children of Eldiyos, in turn, shall reign for a great period of time..." [The Ge'ez here is fragmented but refers to the Great Year count].

"...and the King of the Greeks shall reign for three *sub???* and half a *sub???* of the kingdom of the Children of Eldiyos." * **"The King of Rome, however, shall reign forever, until My Second Coming.** From the King of the Children of Eldiyos, twelve kings shall emerge, who shall judge with justice and righteousness. After them, two minor kings shall emerge, and they shall reign for a short time." * "The two shall perish in the middle of the earth. **The kingdom of the four kings (from the twelve) shall be strengthened over them.**"

"**Three kings shall remain, who are of one lineage.** The first of these three kings shall be killed while on his bed (throne). The second shall reign for one year and a half. The third shall be wicked; **He shall be led only by his own desire and shall not accept the counsel of men.** He shall incite war himself and shall reach the two rivers with his army."

"From this time, He shall pass and enter Syria. He shall circle the wilderness. **He shall kill many people.** He shall return to Syria and circle the wilderness a second time. **He shall then search for and find the country of the Persians.** At this time, the Persians shall kill him between the two mountains." * "After that, from the previously mentioned twelve, one named **'R?' (?) shall reign.**"

"**In His days, the people shall follow Him and walk in His path. He shall establish His law and His order.** After Him, a king whose name begins with **'?' (?) shall reign.** This king shall rule over many countries. **He shall take control of the countries with peace, love, and reconciliation.** He shall love the faithful who believe in Me, and they shall keep My eternal covenant with them."

"After Him, one whose name begins with **'M' (?) shall reign.** He shall conquer the country known as Darb?g?n. **At first, He shall appear to judge with righteousness and uprightness, but his interior is full of deceit, robbery, and plunder.**" * "Then, one whose name begins with **'?' (?) shall reign.** He is the one **who harvests what He did not sow and gathers what is not His.**"

In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God. We shall first write the power and the miracle that God revealed to Peter.

This Peter is the Head of the Apostles, the Preacher, **who received the Key of the Kingdom of Heaven from the Master** so that He may judge and not permit those who are unworthy to enter the Gate of the Kingdom of Heaven.

- And again, He is the Steward of the Kingdom of Heaven, with the authority to restrain those who are unworthy from entering the Kingdom of Heaven, and to judge those who deserve it with righteousness and uprightness.
- **After our Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day, He, in His Godhead, taught us the mystery of the Kingdom of Heaven.**

And we received the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from God the Father, and we accepted Him first. And then **we gave authority, each according to his rank,** first to the Archbishops, and they, in turn, passed it on to the Priests and the Deacons.

When the time for our Lord's Ascension to the heavens arrived, **We went up to the Mount of Olives and He showed us all the miracles and wonders from the beginning until the end.**

- And how He created the entire world by His Word and by the art of His wisdom.
- And again, He showed us all of His creation, **and that the soul of the world is in His hand.**
- And again, He showed us the mystery of His **Second Coming**, and how sinners shall be separated from the righteous in the Kingdom of Heaven, and **how sinners shall be cast into the judgment of fire.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ taught us all this, and showed us, and enlightened our minds until our hearts were full.

And He said to us, "If there is much that I have told you that you have forgotten, and if there are miracles and wonders that you have seen and heard that you may forget, **when I ascend, the Paraclete shall come.** The Spirit of Truth, whom My Father shall send to you."

"**And He shall remind you, and teach you, and strengthen you to do My will and to keep My commandment.**"

"O My son Clement, just as you ask Me today, I, too, asked My Lord and My Savior at that time." And I (Peter) said to Him, "My Lord, how shall I command the leaders of the Church and all the order (customs)?" And He answered me and said to me:

- "**Be careful and understand what I have told you, and do not tell it to others who lack knowledge and understanding, lest My word become a mockery among them, and they cast My word behind them. Do not reveal My word.**"

"**Do not tell this great mystery to those who lack knowledge and understanding, except to the Popes (Archbishops) and the Bishops who are chosen from the people.** For their word is seasoned with the salt of Godhead, and they shall lift up the sinner from the pit of sin into the height of righteousness through repentance."

"**This matter shall not be revealed to those who do not keep and observe My commandment and My word that came out of My mouth.** And all those who reject this My commandment are transgressors. **All the sinners of the earth are cursed,** all those who depart from My commandment. **This matter shall be a very hidden mystery.**"

"Because what I tell you now is precious and hidden, and **it shall not be seen by the fornicator, nor by the defiled,** nor by the one who observes omens and practices divination, nor the one who consults magicians and sorcerers, be it by a star or by a book (magic)."

"Or by fire, or by the sea, or by rivers, or by stumbling of the foot, or by the roaring of beasts, or by the right or the left, or by the great seas, or by the wilderness. **Nor should there be one who defiles his body with animals and beasts, or with a man as with a woman** (homosexuality)."

"Nor one who yearns to wear a garment not given to him, nor the thief who steals his neighbor's wealth, nor the unjust aggressor against his neighbor, nor the one who desires the wealth of others, nor the bribe-taker, nor the liar and false swearer, nor the lover of evil, nor those who follow those who increase the doing of evil, nor those who lend their gold at interest (usury), nor those who take bribes from the pure—**all these I abhor with My soul.**"

"**And those who perform this defiled act and live by it shall not hear My word, and this book shall not be given to them,** lest they mock and point at it with their eyes. **Lest I pour out My wrath upon them at that**

time and destroy them, for My wrath shall be great upon those who despise My word."

"But if there is one among those who walk in this wickedness who says, 'Until today I have not heard such words, and if I had heard this when I was young, I would not have corrupted my body and soul with evil,'—"

"And **if his soul is startled and he weeps with sadness and repents of his trespass, I will pardon his sin.** For **I am the Lord God, his Merciful One and his Creator, and his Provider and his Keeper, and the Sustainer of all flesh.**"

"**I am He who is outside, and I am He who is inside all flesh.** I build the small in detail, and I establish and grow quickly. I gather what is scattered, and I disperse like ashes, and I gather quickly. I shorten the small and I lengthen the little. **I send the lightning, and I bring it back in an instant.** I light up the abysses, and I reveal the depths of the sea. **I thunder upon them and cause a great tremor and shake them in their dwelling.**"

"...and I shall cause the great fish (leviathan) to be troubled in its dwelling. **I shall bind the proud with the power of My chains, and I shall release the humble one from his chains.** I shall raise the lowly and humble the proud. **And I shall grant forgiveness to the one who repents from the depth of his heart.**"

"**Tell the Popes and Archbishops this word** so that they may not reveal it to those who lack understanding. **Lest My wrath be upon you and those like you** when they mock My word and My commandment that came out of My mouth, because **the practice of their sin is sweet to them, and the doing of righteousness is bitter to them.**"

"**But to those who love Me, My word shall be sweet to them, sweeter than honey and sugar.** It shall be more precious than thousands of gold and silver. For My word is esteemed by those who love Me and keep My commandment. **I, too, shall love them exceedingly, and I shall always dwell with them.** I shall write My law upon their hearts, I shall enlighten their hearts, and **I shall make My word heard in their conscience.**"

"**And the Spirit of My Father shall speak for them in all they say,** as it is written in the Gospel: 'The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.' **Likewise, the Holy Spirit shall keep the one who loves My word and keeps My commandment.**"

"**But from those who hate Me and hate My word and do not keep My commandment, the Spirit of My Father shall depart from them.**"

"**And the spirit of the Devil shall enter them, and it is he who teaches them the evil deeds** that they perform, as I told you. For the Holy Spirit does not agree with the works of the Devil, and there is no fellowship between them. **And those who do the work of the Devil shall be condemned with him to Hell,** but those who do the work of the Holy Spirit shall rejoice in the Paradise of Joy."

"**But you, tell the stewards of My house to keep My commandment and observe My law and My order.**"

"And to be an example to the people for the doing of righteousness, while keeping themselves from fornication with their hands (lest they touch the unclean), and with their eyes (lest they see vanity), and with their ears (lest they hear vile talk)."

- "Rather, **let them purify their heads and their hands, so that no defect or sin may be found upon them,** so that the nations may not revile the Name of their God."

"But if they do not love Me and do not keep My commandment and do not act in this manner, as the priests, the children of Israel, did in those times—they did not fear God, and they worshiped idols." And God

said to them through one of their prophets, "**Because of you, the nations revile the Name of God.**"

"**Command them to observe My law and My commandment and to walk in My order,** just as you, My disciples, walked in My commandment."

- "**And do not ordain anyone quickly without examining his life,** lest you regret the action and investigation you performed. **And examine and inquire lest they bring reproach and shame upon us.**"

"From a virgin man and a virgin woman, a blessed man is born. But **from a fornicator and an adulteress, a good man is not born,** nor one who keeps My law like Moses and Aaron."

(A) "Likewise, the priests shall be pure, without blemish, defect, or envy, and with sound body (right or left limbs), with ears that hear, and without stammering tongue (or clean tongue, not given to vile talk)."

- **(B) "But if there is one who rejects your word, let him be cut off and separated from the Church, and do not open the Gate of the Kingdom of Heaven to him.** For you are the Key of the Kingdom of Heaven; the Key of the Kingdom of Heaven is in your hand. **I am the Rock, and you are the Rock of Faith built upon Me.**"

"**For *Kepha* in the Hebrew language means 'Rock,' and upon you I have built My Church, and the Gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.** I have received it from My Father and I have given it to you, and I have bestowed My Spirit of Grace upon you."

"And you, too, shall give and bestow it upon those after you whose hearts you have tested and upon whom no blemish is found; the one who is firm in his word, who does not speak falsehood, who does not devote himself to the craft and works of this passing world, **who does not oppress people with the power of wealth.**"

"Who forgives the offense of the trespassers and turns them back with a word of peace, and accepts the repentance of sinners, and renders judgment without favoritism, and does not show partiality, and does not accept a bribe, **except to render the law well and with upright judgment.**"

"**Such is the one who is worthy to be appointed as Chief Priest (Archbishop),** the one who is tested in all good conduct, who does not neglect the commandments of God, **the hours of the day and night, who does not forget the remembrance of the poor, the bound, the neglected, and those who are in the Church courtyard.**"

(A) "They shall not scatter the possessions of the Church to the people of their house, nor to their foreign relatives, and they shall not give or show favoritism to the face of any man, neither to the great nor to the small, neither to the rich nor to the poor."

- **(B) "And whoever transgresses this word is forbidden and cut off. He shall not be built up by the Church.** My angels who abandoned and cast aside the keeping of this word are higher than you."

Peter said: "O My Lord, let Your will be done, that I may keep all that You have commanded me. **I shall adorn the Church, and all the possessions of the congregation, and all the implements for service, and its sacrifices, and its altars, and its tables,** for the deacons, the singers, the readers, and the lay people, men and women, children and infants."

"Just as You, in the heavenly Jerusalem, are holy, You bestow the law with rank upon the good and **grant separation and excision to the wicked.**"

"Just as Ananias, when He took the fruit of the vine and brought half of it, desiring the blessing of the grace of the Holy Spirit—for **his heart was foolish, and he thought that he could purchase the grace of God with gold.** The guardian of the Church who stands before Me destroyed his soul, and young men buried him, and he went down to the lowest hell."

"And I was angry with him, and when the angel of God who stands before Me, the guardian of the Church, saw that Ananias destroyed his soul, he destroyed his soul."

"And again, his wife came, and when she heard that he had died, she fell down at My feet and pleaded with Me, and **I said to her, 'Why did you conspire with your husband against the Holy Spirit?** You, too, are destroyed with him!' And the angel of God destroyed her soul."

"My son Clement, **do not be negligent, but be angry and chastise those who defy the Church.** It is not you who will take revenge for it, **but the angel whom I have appointed for the Church shall take revenge for it through your word.**"

"He shall do as He wills. **But you, first of all, chastise yourself and correct your conduct.**"

"And then **chastise them without fear. Fight for righteousness, even to the shedding of blood.** For the Lord of the Blood is the Son, the Angel of God, who stands for the Church, which He fenced with His Blood and sealed with His perfect Cross."

"Did He not first show and speak to Moses, that He should make the work of the Tabernacle that is in heaven, and **He made known to him with certainty the word of how He should make its work?** And He told him to establish for the Levites, who were to be its sole servants, a law for the Tabernacle."

"But when the Levites sinned like the rest of the children of Israel and worshiped the idol, God was angry with them and wished to destroy them in a moment. **And Moses appeared and went down to them, and said to them, 'Let every man take his sword and kill his neighbor.'**"

"Therefore, He commanded them thus because **they had defiled the order of the Holy Tabernacle that was given to him on earth,** that He might make a Tabernacle where He would dwell with men. For He wrote on it the ten words of righteousness with His Holy hands. **First of all, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your strength, and with all your conscience.'**"

"'**Love your neighbor as yourself. Honor the Sabbath of the Lord your God. Do not kill. Do not commit adultery with your neighbor's wife.** Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Do not swear falsely by the Name of the Lord your God. Do not covet the wealth of others, which they have acquired.' And other many commandments like these."

"And concerning those who transgressed them, **He commanded in the law of Moses that they should die and be stoned with stones.** And concerning the Sabbath, when they found a man gathering wood on the Sabbath day, they brought him to Moses and took him to the wilderness **until he prayed to God that He might forgive him.**"

"And God spoke to Moses and said to him, '**Let the hands of the witness be first upon him to stone him with stones, and after that, let all the hands of the people stone him with stones.**'"

"See, He showed you the glory of His Tabernacle that you made. **You, too, observe the work of holiness that is done within the Holy of Holies.** Paul also spoke to the people of Corinth, saying: '**If there is one who makes a mistake in the Church, lest he mislead the Christian people, remove him.**'"

"**And keep this message, that you may tell it to those who are appointed in your place after you—the Bishops, the eyes of the Church**—that they may observe these virtues with a pure heart and pass them on, **lest God's wrath come upon them and upon their flock.**"

"**And let your voice command those who tend the flock of Christ, that they may listen to them and fear those who are appointed as priests and chief priests of the Lord of Heaven and Earth,**"

"**Whose Name is sweet to the mouth, whom those who desire to see Him will look upon and visit.** He is the Angel whose authority is over all kings and rulers, and over all power, for **He is the Lord of all, and there is no favoritism with Him** (the Angel/Son)."

"He is the one who made the sun shine in the firmament of the heavens. **And He enlightened the world on the earth.** And the sun enters its west (setting) and gathers its light for the world. **And our Lord, when He ascended to heaven, gathered us into Himself and taught us how to do the work of the Holy Church.**"

"He made us understand and enlightened us, so that **we may teach those who come after us, that they may be strengthened in the order and laws of the Holy Tabernacle.**"

"And our Lord said to us: '**You know that I dwelt with you, and you with Me.** Just as I was with My Father, and as My Father sent Me, **I, too, send you to observe the law and order of the Church, that I may be praised upon it.**'"

"**For because of it (the Church) I was crucified and died.** Keep the order strictly in it, that I may be praised in it with My Father and the Holy Spirit, **for all things are done in the Trinity, and the world and all that is in it were made by the Trinity.**"

"And when you baptize the nations, say: '**In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,**' so that they may worship the Three Persons in one Name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And when I am lifted up and ascend to My Father, **I will send you the Holy Spirit, that you may not be like bereaved orphans.**"

"And He shall remind you of all that I have told you. **My Father loves you exceedingly.** I do not plead with your Father first on your behalf, **but My Father loves you and hears you and will do for you all that you ask. And I shall not be far from you and from the Church.** And again, **I shall dwell with you and those like you until the end of the world.**"

"**I will make you understand and strengthen you with My Father.** And My Angel shall stand for the Church to do for them all that they desire. **But you, tell the stewards of My house to be cautious of the wicked nations who come to them not seeking repentance.** And this is not only concerning the wicked nations."

"**Also, beware of the false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, for within them are rapacious and ravenous wolves, who despise the Word of God.** They will interpret it for their own gain and lie about it, for the Devil has misled them, and they change the word to suit their deeds."

"**But you, do not greet them (or: do not follow their custom), and do not walk in the path of those who swear allegiance to the Devil and perform the work of sorcery and magic.**"

"**Keep away from them, and do not know their ways. And do not befriend them, for they are the children of darkness, and you are the children of light.** 'You are the children of the Church, which I purchased with My Blood,' says the Lord who reigns over all."

"And I will extinguish the light of those who transgress My law, both men and women, who involve themselves in all manner of divination. They shall not enter the Church of the Lord of Heaven and Earth, who feeds all creation. He satisfies the four temperaments (nature of man): two that are tangible and two that are intangible; three that are visible and one that is invisible."

"And with these temperaments, **He feeds all who have soul and body.** He binds the water in the subtle clouds, and scatters the mist like ash, and brings down the hail like scattered pieces. **He bridles the leviathan (great fish) and binds the robber.** He releases the humble and raises the poor from the ground, and lifts the wretched from the dust."

"**He makes the barren woman rejoice and prepares the rain for the earth.** He established the Church first by the prophets, and secondly by the Apostles, and then He handed it over to the Doctors and the children of the Bishops and the Priests and the Deacons."

"And again, to the Priests and the Deacons, and after them to the Singers and the Readers, men and women. **Our Church's fruit is like the palm tree, which is one but has many branches.**"

"And again, like the peel of a pomegranate, which is one fruit, but within it are many seeds and many parts. Their fellowship shall be in one bond, and **no fruit like withered straw, which has no fruit, shall be found in it.** Nor like the fig tree that had no fruit, which our Lord cursed."

"Beware of these people, lest they pervert your faith. There shall be no one who consults divination by a star, or by a needle, or by a lot, or by food, or by the roaring of wild beasts, or by observing birds, or by a word of prophesy. **The judgment of God shall find all these.**"

"Those who cover their faces with paint, and those who shave their beard, and the women who touch the unclean and perform abominable acts upon their bodies, or with stones, or with paint, or with trees—**because of the great sorrow and anger that has found us.**"

"They thought that they were arguing with God and did not receive with thanksgiving what came upon them. They shall all abandon the former habit. **But if they refuse correction, let them be outcasts and driven away from the Church.**"

"And if there is one who teaches magic, or conjuring, or one who makes horses run, or one who chases wild animals, or an interpreter of dreams, or one who practices sorcery, **let all these abandon their former habits and deeds. And those who repent shall abandon them, but if they refuse, let them be cut off from the Church.** And if there is one who loves sorcery and worships the sun..."

"Beware, lest those who say 'We have faith' mislead you—those who worship by a star, or by a needle, or by a spear, or by grain, or by stone, or by the sound of a beast, or by a bird, or by a chant, or by other things."

"People (both men and women) who harm their bodies exist: who pierce their faces with iron when sorrow or vexation befalls them; who shave their beards; and women who commit destruction upon their bodies with stone or wood.

"Such people seem to be in contention with God. They do not accept the tribulation that has come upon them with thanksgiving. **Let such people be told to abandon the evil custom they inherited.** But if they are not willing to accept the counsel given to them, **let them be separated from the Church.**"

"If there is one who teaches children to sing (chanting/secular song), or one who rides horses, or one who lives by sorcery, or one who lives by interpreting dreams, or one who makes his dwelling only a place of play—**all**

these, when they come to the Church, must abandon all their former customs. Accept all those who are willing to abandon their former customs. **But one who worships the sun and practices sorcery shall be removed.**"

"And if there is one who bows down to the moon, and to all the powers of the heavens, who bows down to creation in the mountains, neglecting to worship God, and **one who slaughters an animal in the mountains, he shall be expelled from the Church.**"

"And if he hears this and repents and returns, **you have the wisdom to give him repentance according to the measure of the sin he committed**, for the love of people. A woman who marries two brothers shall be expelled, and a man [who marries two sisters] shall also be driven away, **for she/he has brought reviling upon their father and mother.**"

"But if the man or the woman who entered into such a wrong marriage repents and returns and abandons their former wickedness, **receive them with repentance and teach them not to enter into such a marriage again.** And let them have a proper Christian marriage."

"And teach the virgins who are not yet married to **guard their virginity carefully, as the pupil of the eye.** Let the father chastise his son, and the mother chastise her daughter, and let them not marry in the way of fornication, **but according to the law we gave you.** Write a summary for them after you have examined and judged."

"And all those who choose to live in continence, set them before God, and betroth them to the Heavenly Groom, that they may guard themselves. And if they cannot live in continence, **let them unite under the law of the canon in one woman with the fear of God,** for a pure union is blessed before God."

"God created our father Adam in His image and likeness, and gave him one woman, Eve. He blessed them and said to them, **'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.'** And so God commanded the Christian to live with one woman."

"But those who live with many women who are not ordained by law, **they shall not be counted among the sheep of Christ's flock.** But if the people repent and return, they shall be counted among the faithful. **But if they refuse to return from their evil deed, let them be separated from the Church.**"

"And so, establish the order for the Church at all times, that God may dwell in it. **And I will give you a parable: the likeness of this rich man who built a beautiful, glorious, and greatly illuminated house with seven pillars.**"

"The seventh pillar was planted in the middle and bore all the weight, and it was very beautiful. Its lock was well-made. **And He placed seven counselors in it.** And He appointed the seventh one over them all, who commands them all. **And He made two 'eyes' beneath them, who observe the good and the evil.**"

"And He made two bearers beneath them who carry everything, **and He appointed ten workers from among them, whom He commands to do everything He desires, that they may do His will.**"

"And the interpretation of this is: **'God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel. In Salem is His tabernacle, and His dwelling place in Zion.** There He broke the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle.' (Psalm 76:1-3)"

"You shall establish this order **so that the foundation of the faith of the children of the Church may be strengthened, so that God may dwell with them,** and make them a glorious dwelling place where He has built

His house with His Father and the Holy Spirit, the life-giver."

"And again, tell the stewards of the Church **not to neglect the repentance of sinners.** For our Lord Himself said: **'Do not lay heavy burdens on the nations that they are unable to bear.'** But you, with your discerning mind, **rule the Church according to the order we commanded you in our council when we were together.**"

"Our Lord Himself commanded us beforehand with the Holy Spirit **that we should be wise and understanding within the inner veil** (of the temple). And **no evil shall be found upon you that will separate you from the Lord your God.**"

"And after this, gather again so that you may benefit the nations. **And no blemish shall be found upon you,** that God may rejoice on account of you and on account of them, **so that you may say, 'We stood before Him, we did what You commanded us, and we taught Your people to do likewise.'**"

"**'O Lord, do not drive us away with the cursed ones who transgress Your commandment, but number us with Your sheep who kept Your commandment, and do not make us far from Your mercy.'** And when you say this, **He shall rejoice over you with your children, and you shall inherit the new earth with the righteous and the good.**"

"Because, from all the nations that you teach, if you see any sin that they commit, **do not pass it over, but chastise them, lest God rebuke you.** And if you teach uprightly in what you have seen and heard, **God will reveal to you hidden things that you did not know before.**"

"And because of this, the Holy Church shall be seen shining. **You, the shepherds, shall gather the word on the Day of Judgment, whether good or evil.** Good for the good in the dwelling of light, where there is no sickness and no pain."

"And evil for the wicked in the dwelling of darkness, where there is eternal fire and eternal punishment, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth, sorrow and affliction, lamentation and woe, where the fire is not extinguished forever."

"Keep this My word and this My order, that you may rejoice in the courtyard of your God, and you shall become leaders over those whom you have testified about, **just as our Lord promised us and said to us: 'When I come a second time, when I sit on My throne of judgment, you shall sit on twelve thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel.'**"

"If you believed in Me through My word in the good law, you shall become good leaders. But those who did not believe in Me through My word and My praise, they shall be in judgment forever."

"And you, too, if you taught them well, you shall become doctors, and you shall rejoice in the Paradise of Joy with them. **But those who did not listen to your word shall be in judgment.** And if you did not perform your deed well, you too shall be in judgment together."

"And if you did not honor your calling with which I called you, **judgment awaits you.** I, Clement, tell you plainly: **Be firm, that you may chastise the sinners and turn the deceitful ones back from their wickedness, and let heaven and earth hear a witness on their behalf.**"

"As the prophet says, **'Hear, O heavens, and I will speak; and let the earth hear the word of My mouth.'** And again, He says in the same psalm: **'This people is foolish and not wise.' 'Was not this Father who created you, who formed you and made you?'** And again, He says in this psalm: **'Jacob ate and was satisfied and grew fat and big, and was hungry, and he abandoned God his Creator, and his life moved far from**

God.'"

"Likewise, **you shepherds, chastise the people beneath you and teach them the Holy Order.**"

"This order is what you received on the holy and great day of your birth (spiritual birth/ordination) when you received the grace of the Holy Spirit upon you. **First of all, keep the order of this faith, and teach the people to keep it.**"

"For everyone who loves shall prepare the spiritual table, **and he who does not partake of it is a liar.**"

"And when you speak and do not guard yourselves, there is no one who will listen to you. And others will say, **'If they did what they preach, we would not listen to them, but we would do what they themselves do.'"**

"**'Now they teach us, but they do not practice; how can we listen to them and keep their commandment?** We will rather walk as the leaders of the Church themselves walked.' **Keep the commandment of God, and do not show favoritism in judgment.**"

"**And do not take a bribe from a pure person; this is worse than all evil, for it blinds the eyes of the heart and darkens the wisdom.** Do not show favoritism to the face of the rich because of his wealth, **and do not neglect the judgment of the orphans because of their poverty.**"

"**For God is the Father of the poor, and the Helper of him who has no helper.** And I will turn My face away from those who forget My word and My commandment, until I destroy them and erase their remembrance from the earth, **those who defy My word.**"

"**And those who teach the word of faith will become the heads of the Church.** These shall show My path to the nations, **and they shall adorn the Church with a beautiful ornament, which is My teaching.**"

"A Bishop who adorns the altar with tasty food while the people of his country are hungry **is not a Bishop.** And while they are naked..."

"A Bishop who consumes various palatable foods while the people of his country are suffering from hunger, or are struggling with lack of clothing or with thirst, **should not be called a Bishop.** Such a Bishop awaits God's wrath, **for he has utterly failed in his mission.**"

"Even when half of the people of his country eat, the other half are always hungry among them. Even when half of them are clothed, the other half walk naked, and are hungry for the bread that God has promised to the good stewards, the appointed ones of the Church."

"At that time, **those who did not keep the commandment of God and the order of the Church, and those who did not perform their mission well, shall repent of their negligence.** When the Son comes in the majesty of His kingdom, **He shall say to all of them, 'Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity,' and they shall die a second death.**"

"**'I do not know you,' He shall say, 'because you did not do good to your poor and wretched brothers and sisters.** I will not give you the blessings that I promised to your fathers, **to the Church that I purchased with My Blood,'** says the Lord."

"**'For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and everyone who humbles himself shall be exalted.'** Listen, O fool, who despises your neighbor and exalts yourself! You have not known the two men, the Pharisee and the Publican, who went up to the Temple to pray."

"The Pharisee stood apart and prayed in the pride of his heart, and **God did not accept his prayer.**"

"But the Publican did not even dare to enter the Temple, but was deeply remorseful in his conscience, and wept with heavy sighing, saying, **'I am not worthy to lift up my eyes to heaven, because of the multitude of my faults (sins).'** He was justified because of his repentance."

"And again, do you not understand what He said in the Gospel: **'Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?'** Why do you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye,' when there is a plank in your own eye? **First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.** God has forbidden us to exalt ourselves and to despise our neighbors."

"**Do not seek anything that causes you to despise your neighbor, and let not your heart be filled with pride, for where there is pride, there is shame.** It shall not be that you bring shame upon the servants of the Church which God established with all order. **Now, he who acts upon it as we commanded when we were together...**"

"And our God and Savior commanded us: **'Whatever you wish that men would do to you, do also to them.'** And God spoke to the children of Israel by Moses and said to them, **'Do not bring strange fire, lest you die as they died when they brought strange fire.'** Therefore, **you too, do not bring conflict upon the Holy Church.** "

"The Israelites transgressed the commandment of God and died when they brought strange fire. If they follow the path of arrogance against their teachers, **they may be swallowed by the earth as Dathan and Abiram and the sons of Korah were swallowed.** Let those who are not born again of Holy Baptism into the Holy Church not enter in arrogance."

"And you, too, if you do not fulfill your mission properly after you are baptized, **you shall descend into the condemnation of fire that has no end forever.**"

"**And you, My son Clement, you should be an example to many.** Show them this (good work) that they may learn from your conduct and follow it. And do not neglect God. **Support those who are weak.**"

"**Raise up those who have fallen, and save the oppressed, and forgive their sins and their wickedness.** Be an example to the good, and chastise the wicked, that they may turn away from evil and not commit iniquity in judgment. **And concerning the Church, let us rule uprightly as we commanded and established the canon for the Church.**"

"**And especially, let them guard themselves from listening to falsehood, and from fornication, and from going to a married woman, and from the unclean (or: unclean thoughts), and from sacrificing and offering to idols, and let them not defile its holy things.** For God is holy, as He Himself said, '**Be holy, for I am holy.**'"

"**And do not speak abusive words against your neighbor, for it was by abusive speech that the Devil fell from his throne.** Michael, the Chief of Angels, was exalted from his throne because of his humility. **He who sounded the trumpet was exalted above all the angels.**"

"**Likewise, the priest of the Church shall be humble and gentle, who lightens the burden of the sinners, and turns the deceitful ones back with a word of peace. He is the faithful messenger of Christ, who rightly divides the Word of God like a sharp razor with two edges.**"

"Or like a farmer who does not turn his furrow right or left. **Righteousness is the Kingdom of God for those who practice it.** Keep this commandment, **lest you be counted among those who descend into the abyss, which is hell.** And teach the faithful to be saved from the damnation that is prepared for sinners."

"Peter said: 'We, the twelve apostles, while we were gathered together, **I, Peter, commanded this for every person: "Whatever you do not wish others to do to you, do not do to your neighbor."** For this is the whole Law and the Prophets. And we commanded that your faith be strengthened.'"

"And John, the beloved of our Lord, said: **'Woe to him who defiles his body with the lust of fornication, for his body is a member of God.** After he receives Baptism and partakes of the Body and Blood of Christ, he becomes one with Christ in soul and body. **After you have received the Body of Christ and become His member, do you make your body a member of a harlot?'**"

"Let every man dwell with his own wife, and the wife dwell with her own husband. And again, Paul said: **'If you have married a wife, do not separate from your wife.'** And if she is separated, **'let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband.'** It is better if you live by my counsel. And again, he said: **'If you do not have a wife, do not desire women, lest it be a sin for you.'**"

"**It is better to marry than to burn with lust.** And he who commits fornication with a woman who is not his wife **is reckoned as one who sacrifices the blood of animals to demons.** And he will be despised on the Last Day of Judgment if he walks in the way of the Devil, who plants evil in the hearts of men and does not desire even one believer to be saved."

"**And the horns of the Devil are pride and contempt, and slandering one's neighbor, and greed, and drink, and drunkenness, and fornication, and swearing falsely, and cursing one's neighbor with the mouth, and with a word of falsehood, and other works of evil, and strife, and laughter, and jesting, and envy, and anger, and seizing the property of another, and theft, and going to a married woman.**"

"**And hating one's neighbor—all these are evil deeds that the Devil sows in the heart of man, and they defile the Holy Spirit.** But the seed that the Holy Spirit sows in the heart of man is: **Humility, and gentleness, and love, and peace, fasting, and prayer, and mercy, and supplication.**"

"**And reading, and mercy to the poor, and almsgiving.** All this is love that the Holy Spirit sows in the heart of man."

"Let the wise keep the commandment of God and not walk in the way of the Devil, **lest he steal their mind.** Sometimes in joy, and sometimes in sorrow. **And change your joy into weeping and sorrow, and accept your sorrow with thanksgiving, that God may rejoice over you.**"

"And He will reward you with all good things **that eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor entered into the heart of man,** which God has prepared for those who love Him. The Paradise of Joy is what human eyes have not seen, nor human ears heard."

"**There is no sorrow there.** To enter there, **keep the order of the angels that was given by the Lord Jesus Christ to the faithful, that you may keep the law and order of the Holy Church.** But those who do not keep its law and order shall be counted among the sorcerers and heretics."

"And those who keep His law and order, **He shall give them their reward, that they may receive the reward of their labor, for they have pleased the Heavenly Bridegroom with a holy deed of righteousness.** For where the spirit of righteousness is, there is the spirit of freedom, for the spirit of righteousness frees everyone who commits sin."

"**If righteousness frees you, truly you are free.** And you have moved far from righteousness, for you committed sin by your own will. **And from now on, be free; let not sin rule you.** And observe all the order of the Church, for the Church is called the soul of the Christian, and the soul of the Christian is the spirit of Christ."

"And the spirit of the Christian and the spirit of Christ is the Spirit of God. **Where He is, He drives away sin.** And the Spirit of God shouts over the righteous man, saying, '**Lord, have mercy on me and pity me.**'"

"And when the righteous man cries out like this, he does not fall, **for God is over him.** And the conscience of the righteous man does not move far from God. And because of this, **He shall save him from the error of demons.** Let us guard ourselves from the error of demons while the Spirit of God is over us, **and let us beautify the Church as the apostles commanded us, while we heal the diseases of our souls and bodies.**"

"And because of this, **if you do not lead the people beneath you and do not teach them, God will rebuke you.** For God spoke to the prophet Ezekiel: '**Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel. Speak to the wicked, that they may repent of their sin.** And if you speak to them, and they do not repent of their sin, **they shall die in their sin.** And if you speak to them, and they repent of their sin, **they shall save themselves from their sin.**'"

"And again, **speak to the righteous man, lest he turn away from his righteousness.** And if he does as you command him, **he saves himself.** And if you speak to him and he does not endure, he shall die in his sin. **But you have saved yourself.** And if he keeps his righteousness until the day of his death, **he shall die in his righteousness, and he shall be rewarded by Me.** And you, too, shall be rewarded by Me because you acted and spoke."

"**So we commanded the priests to tell the sinner to repent of his sin, and not to show favoritism, and not to fear the rich because of his wealth, nor the king because of the greatness of his glory.** For the King of Heaven and Earth is over him. **He is the one who honors him.**"

"...and not to fear the rich because of his wealth, nor the king because of the greatness of his glory. For the King of Heaven and Earth is over him. **He is the one who honors him.**"

"**He who hates My word and does not keep it, I am not the one who condemns him, but My word will condemn him** when it is spoken before him, and it will be a witness against him. **It will be written in his book of deeds,** and it shall be executed before the angels and the people."

"The order of the Church on earth shall be like that of the **Heavenly Jerusalem.**"

"And when our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into the heavens, after He gave us the order of the Holy Church, **on the second day, when He ascended from us, the Apostles, He taught the angels in the air.** He taught the archangels, and they bowed down to Him and believed in Him, **that He is their Lord, with the body that He took from us, and He ascended.** And on the third day, He taught the Dominions (Ag'ezet), and they bowed down to Him and believed in Him, that He is their Lord, with the body that He took from us, and He ascended."

"And on the fourth day, the Thrones (Menabert) believed and bowed down to Him, with the body that He took from us, and He ascended. And on the fifth day, He taught the Powers (Hayelat), and they believed and bowed down to Him, that He is their Lord, with the body that He took from us, and He ascended."

"And on the sixth day, He taught the Principalities (Liqanat), and they believed and bowed down to Him, with the body that He took from us, and He ascended. And on the seventh day, He taught the Cherubim (Kirubawiyan), and they believed and bowed down to Him, with the body that He took from us, and He ascended."

"And on the eighth day, He taught the Seraphim (Surafelawiyan), and they bowed down to Him and believed that He is their Lord."

"And on the ninth day, He taught the Rulers (Mekwanent), and they believed that He is their Lord, and they bowed down to Him, with the body that He took from us."

"And on the tenth day, **He sat upon His throne of divinity, at the right hand of His glorious Father,** and He sent down to us the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, who guides us, **the whole spirit of wisdom and understanding.**"

"And at that time, we, the Apostles, were able to speak in the language of all nations. And we divided the whole world to preach and teach. **And we united in one place and established the Church that is in every nation,** and we went out to preach the message of the Holy Gospel to the whole world."

"And we teach the people so that they may first strengthen their faith, that they may be diligent, and live by the law of the canon as we established for the Church, the House of God, **and that they may be zealous for the work of holiness, and watchful in prayer, as is fitting for the House of God.**"

"For the prophetess Hannah, the daughter of Phanuel, from the tribe of Asher, **her lips did not cease from the praise of God day and night.** And her lips were not seen moving, and her voice was not heard. **And likewise, it is fitting for the faithful to pray continually in the Holy of Holies for the salvation of their souls.**"

"**For he who prays to God with a pure heart, he shall receive the good things that He has prepared for those who love Him.**"

"O My son Clement, hear what I tell you: **All those who neglect the Word of God have no portion in the Holy Church of the Apostles.** We have established the Church to be like heaven, **for it is heavenly, and its light appears over it like the sun from afar, like a great gathering place.**"

"And the prophets saw it dwelling in the desert, and it was beautiful over the tops of the mountains. **And we made it to be the head in its own glory.** And as our Lord commanded us, **we established order within it.**"

"And we prepared it for the Heavenly Groom as He Himself commanded us. **And we made its ornaments: first those of the prophets, second those of us, the apostles, and then those for the doctors of the Church, the Bishops,** and then for the people and all the islands and nations, **that the people may rejoice in the order of the Holy Church.**"

"The Church is ours, which the Savior Christ sanctified with His Blood and blessed with the sign of the cross, **to be a place of supplication and a place of worship, and a place for the forgiveness of all sin.**"

"She (the Church) lightens distress and helps the afflicted. **Let us keep its order with all diligence,** while we nourish it with pleasure and the faith of the Holy Spirit, in the praise of the only begotten Son of God, our Savior. **And we shall rejoice in her.** And those who abide in our order shall rejoice exceedingly, for the Church belongs to the people. He said, **'Look at your courtyard and rejoice in your people who have corrected their souls through repentance, for they shall rejoice within you.'**"

"The soul of the Christian and its gates are not known, **for its gate is our Lord Himself.** He who enters through its gate enters through its foundation. **The Church is the Kingdom of Heaven.** We shall walk in it while keeping the commandment of God."

"For He Himself said, **'I am the true gate, and no one comes to the Father except through Me.'** He who knows Me knows My Father, who sent Me. He said, **'I will teach the pure ones, and he who enters to Me will**

find pasture; he will enter the pasture while rejoicing.'"

"And He said: **'I am the Light, and I give light to the eyes of the blind, and I am the Staff.** And I will beat and drive out the demons, and I will drown the herds of swine in the sea.' And He said, **'I am the Life, and I raised Lazarus from the grave after the fourth day.'** He said, **'I am the Rod of Life.'** And He said, **'I am the Vine.'** And I turned the water into wine, and I satisfied those who were gathered at the wedding feast. He said, **'I am the Bread of Life who came down from heaven,'** and I satisfied all the five thousand men with five loaves, besides the women and children."

"And He said, **'I am the Spring of Water; let him who is thirsty come to Me and drink.'** He said, **'I am the Sun of Righteousness who truly gives light in the hearts of the faithful people.'** The sun rises and sets, **but Christ is the Sun of Righteousness who never sets.**"

"And He said, **'I am the Life and the Medicine; I am the Lamp that gives light to the darkness of the heart for those who keep My commandment.** And I will light their hearts, **lest the Devil trick them,** for he tries the faithful, lest they keep My commandment.'"

"And He said, **'I am the Life, and whoever believes in Me, though he may die, yet shall he live, and I will raise him up on the Last Day into the Resurrection of Glory.' You, the leaders of the Church, keep My commandment and command them not to do the works of darkness,** for the works of darkness lead to death, and death descends into hell."

"**And you, O My son Clement, keep and tell the people to be saved from fornication, for it defiles the soul and the body together for those who walk in that path.** As our brother Paul said, **'The man who commits sin (fornication) sins against his own body,'** for the Holy Church is the mother of the faithful, and God is their Father."

"Because we received His Body and Blood, **is it then right, O brothers, to defile the body that has become one with Him?** And concerning marriage and the procreation of offspring, **let them marry in one covenant, and let the husband dwell with one wife.** And because of this, **we forbade fornication.**"

"Therefore, **God hated fornication,** and He commanded us to teach the people to abide only in the Holy Church, and not to be lovers of fornication, **for lust leads a person into the Devil's snare.**"

"And it was through the **lust for food** that our father Adam was snared and brought down to this cursed earth, **for the earth was cursed because of Adam.** And because of this, God descended from His lofty dwelling place to the earth and became man from Holy Virgin Mary, **and was conceived and appeared in Bethlehem, without sin,** as the prophets foretold."

"He walked on the earth and was revealed publicly, and He taught Baptism for the remission of sin. **He was baptized by the hand of John the priest.** And after that, He healed the sick, and opened the eyes of the blind, and made the lame well, and made the deaf hear, and made the dumb speak. He calmed the sea and walked upon it as one who walks on dry land."

"He raised Lazarus from the grave and brought him back to life. But the Jews slandered Him, saying, **'It is better that one man should die than that the whole nation should perish.'** This was prophesied by their chief priest, Caiaphas, when he said this, not meaning to counsel Him, but to betray Him. And again, they slandered Him, saying, **'Where did this man get this wisdom? Is this not Joseph the carpenter's son?'**"

"His mother is Mary, from the tribe of Judah. But we are Levites. Therefore, our father Levi was given the priesthood by God, and **we enter the Holy of Holies to perform the work of the priesthood. 'From where did**

this man get this (priesthood)?' they said. And because of the Sabbath, the Jews rebuked Him, saying, **'This man is not from God, for he does not honor the Sabbath and does not keep the law of the Old Testament.'** But our Lord Jesus Christ provoked their anger by doing His work on the Sabbath day."

"The Holy Old Testament says that God finished all His work and rested on the Sabbath day; this is the seventh day. **But when He who is the Lawmaker of the Sabbath came, He paid its debt** in place of the one who did not work, and performed its work. On this day, He did His work, **so that the Jews might be angry at the Law.** After He came to us, He did the work, **and He healed the blind man with mud.**"

"On the Sabbath, He healed the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. **And He healed the woman who was possessed by a demon on the Sabbath.** He healed the daughter of Jairus from her sickness on the Sabbath. **All the signs and wonders that He performed were done on the Sabbath.**"

"He performed all the signs and wonders on the Sabbath, **to bring us back to the true work** that He performed in the first days when He created the heaven and the earth. And when the Jews debated with Him about the Sabbath, He said to them, **'My Father does mercy on the Sabbath, and I also do the work of My Father.'** And because of this, He performed His work on the Sabbath day. And they became very angry and gave Him up to be sold for thirty pieces of silver. **And after that, they seized Him** as it is written in the Gospel."

"And they crucified Him because of our sin, **and He rose on the third day,** and He taught us His law and His order, for **He lived with us for forty days and nights.**"

"And so our Lord taught us, saying, '**Keep My order that I have taught you, and I have made you to understand it with your minds.** Make the foolish wise, and bring joy to the sad, and justify the sinners, and give light to the fallen through repentance, and comfort the grieving, and turn the pagans to Christianity.'"

"**And do not forsake the commandments of the law that I have established for you, for I will be with you until the end of the world,** and I will establish My word and your word over everyone who hears My commandment. **But he whom My Father has not drawn cannot come to Me,** for there are those who go up to life because they heard the divine word that you preached. **But if anyone rejects your word, he shall descend into the condemnation of judgment, where there is no end forever and ever.**"

"**Keep My law, and let nothing of My order that I established for you be forsaken** in the Holy Tabernacle, where I will speak within your hearts, **for it is a place of supplication and a place for the remission of sin.**"

"**For she (the Church) lessens distress and helps the afflicted, for she is a lover of strangers.** And she gives forgiveness to him who asks, **for she is a dwelling place of joy.**"

"And those who rely on her shall not be shaken forever, **for her foundation is strong,** established by the **cross of Jesus Christ,** who saved her by His Blood and blessed her with the tree of His cross, **to be a place for the remission of sin.**"

"**O My son Clement, keep this order that was entrusted to you from God, to be given to the stewards of the Church, that they may keep the holy order** that was established by God in the **Tabernacle of Righteousness,** which is likened to the Jerusalem in which the angels and all the diligent heavenly hosts and twenty thousand thousands, and ten thousand ten thousands, and the assembly of the firstborn, whose names are written in the Book of Life in the Heavenly Jerusalem, praise God."

"And she (the Church) brings the patient ones who dwell in her to God, **and she says to them, 'Come, My children, who were diligent to Me day and night in My midst,** and who kept My order, for the order that I established for them is for eternity.'"

"And through the Holy Church, they shall inherit the Kingdom of Heaven that He promised to their fathers, **who believed in Him. O My son Clement, keep the chosen order that was entrusted to your hand from God,** for I have received the key to the Kingdom of Heaven. **You, too, shall receive this from Me.** Keep it and entrust it to the leaders of the Church who are under you. **Entrust them to keep the order of the Holy Church.**"

"And they shall establish the law as they are able, for the deacons, sub-deacons, and for the people, for men and women, and for children. **Command them to correct their path in the way of righteousness** that the Apostles established for the Church, as we first commanded in our law. **And we say to all those of the Church:** the standing places of the Archbishops, Archpriests, Priests, Deacons, and Lectors,"

"**And for the lay elders, and children, and holy women, and virgins, and widows, the children of the deceased, and deaconesses, their standing places shall be distinct, and they shall guard them among themselves.**"

"The deacons shall visit all the houses of the Christians and all the houses of women, **and the deacons shall visit all the houses of the faithful, lest they be lazy,** morning and evening, and they should go to the Church, thanking God in the evening for the light of the day that God gave to the labor of man, by which he lives and which helps the strong."

"And in the morning, they shall thank Him, saying, for the darkness of the night that has passed from them, and also for the rest that He gave them. **The dawn is likened to the resurrection of the dead, and the sleep of the night is likened to death.**"

"And because of this, **we commanded by canon** that Christians should go to the Church morning and evening, midday and hourly, **lest they forsake going to the Church** morning and evening. And they shall pray for themselves and for their neighbors, and for the king, and for the apostles, and for all the birds, and for all the animals, and for all the creation that God created."

"**This is the commandment that they should pray for themselves and for their neighbors, and they should go to the Church morning and evening with one mind,** while loving their neighbors and humbling themselves, **and they should not listen to the slander of their neighbors.**"

"And at the time when he wakes up, he shall say, **'I have sinned, forgive me.'** The practice of Christians shall be like this. Even if he is provoked, he shall say, 'Forgive me,' and he shall humble himself like one who has sinned, as they sin against him. **In this way, the work of our Lord Jesus Christ is known.**"

"He fulfilled the law for the Church, and we established this for the faithful Christians who trust in God and the Holy Church, **that He may give them the reward of their praises.**"

"And he who endures suffering and affliction on earth, **that he may find the hope that is in heaven, where moth does not destroy.** We have established the canon for the Church, **for he who wrongs his neighbor and seizes his property by injustice, or denies his trust,**"

"Command him to give back the indemnity for the wrong he did. **Let no one be complacent, and let no one seize his neighbor's property.**"

"**For it is commanded by the fellowship of the Holy Church that the Christian should not exalt himself over his neighbor,** and that he should bring joy to the sad, and comfort the grieving, **that he may bring justice and peace among them, and help the afflicted, and not seize his neighbor's property by injustice.**"

"Whenever he awakes, he shall say, '**I have sinned, forgive me.**' This must be the practice of Christians. Even if they are provoked, they shall say, 'Forgive me,' and they shall humble themselves as if they have sinned against him, even when others sin against him. **In this way, the work of our Lord Jesus Christ is known.**"

"He fulfilled the law for the Church, and we established this for the faithful Christians who trust in God and the Holy Church, **so that He may give them the reward of their praises.**"

"And he who endures suffering and affliction on earth, **that he may find the hope that is in heaven, where moth does not destroy.** We have established the canon for the Church, **for he who wrongs his neighbor and seizes his property by injustice, or denies his trust**,"

"Command him to give back the indemnity for the wrong he did. **Let no Christian be involved in this.**"

"**For it is commanded by the fellowship of the Holy Church that the Christian should not exalt himself over his neighbor,** and that he should bring joy to the sad, and comfort the grieving, **that he may bring justice and peace among them, and help the afflicted, and not seize his neighbor's property by injustice.**"

"**Command those under you to do this.** Visit those who go to the Holy Church, which is above all [churches], and gladden them and comfort them. **And do not despise the sick sheep of your Lord,** and if its hands or feet are broken, bind it up so that **you may not lose the small one of your Lord.**"

"And carry it upon your shoulders and bring it to your Lord's house, to the **Sheepfold of the Living Ones,** and then look at its wound, and wash it, and cleanse it, and **pour oil and wine into it, for everything is salted with salt (preservation/wisdom),** so that this sick sheep may live for you, for it does not know the life that it will bear for your Lord's treasury: oil, and wine, and wheat."

"If the life of a person is weakened by worshipping idols, **cleanse him from sin and heal his manner of life through repentance,** so that he may be clean wheat for the treasury of your Lord God. Whether in denial, or in faith, or in fasting, or in any manner of action, **correct him and strive to heal him,** so that he may be clean and be put into the Lord's treasury, **and not be the chaff that is thrown into the fire.**"

"**Chaff is the sinner who does not return to repentance** in the order of the Holy Church, which keeps its order at all times. And you, **command the doctors (teachers) of the Church,** and they, in turn, shall command the **leaders of the people** (rulers) to counsel them."

"**They shall teach the kings and the officials without fear concerning the order of the Holy Church.** Counsel them and make them understand what has been established for them by law. **And you, if you are an official as it is fit for you, hear the word of God** that the doctors of the Church tell you, **and do not fear them, and do not be grieved at them** with pride and arrogance, **lest God be angry with you.** And do not harbor resentment in your heart for the word of God they told you concerning the salvation of your soul."

"**And even if you are a king, as befits your kingdom, love the Word of God so that they may speak it to you,** and do not ignore those who speak to you, but **love them exceedingly as your own soul,** and do not be haughty toward them, **lest God be angry with you in His wrath.**"

"**And again, fear Him who judges soul and body together.** And do not ignore their word that they told you, for **he who ignores the Word of God shall shorten his days,** and God will bring upon him all the evil that He spoke against Saul, and Ahab, and Uzziah."

"In those days, **the kings were the ones who transgressed and ignored the Word of God,** and they did not correct their ways before Him who looks upon them, and they did not lead justly those under them, the sheep of

God's pasture, although He had entrusted them to be guarded so that they might be looked after with purity."

"**And if they destroy those entrusted to them, there is One who will hold them accountable:** God will require it of them if they destroy souls in vain. **And the souls whom the Bishops of the Church look after** are important."

"**O King, you look after the body (physical matters). You and the Bishop, pray diligently lest the sheep of God be destroyed.**"

"**You, O King, in your good administration, save them from those wicked ones who seize them, who do not keep justice, and who are haughty in the strength of their power.**"

"**And you, save the widows and the children of the deceased from the hands of the wicked and the sinners.** And for the officials and the Archbishops, and the children of the deceased, and for the officials and the Archbishops, **let them guard their souls lest the Devil deceive them.** And correct them through repentance, and save them from the wrath of the Devil, **so that God may rejoice in their mercy and in the guarding of their flock.**"

"**And guard your flock while you hear this word, and do not forsake Him who feeds you with His nourishment,** for God will not require of you (an accounting) **for not having taught or rebuked those who did not listen to you.**"

"And those who listen, **do not send them back to the houses of their pagan fathers,** so that they may not corrupt their faith and their return. But **strengthen them until their faith is firm,** and do not send them to denial, **lest their fathers and relatives harden their hearts.**"

"**For when you send a believer who has turned from denial back to the land of his pagan and denying fathers, his denial will be worse than the former.**"

"...For when you send one who has believed and turned from denial back to the land of his pagan and denying fathers, **his denial becomes worse than the former.**"

"The Holy Scripture says, '**Do not give what is holy to the dogs, nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet and turn and tear you.**' Do not send back those whom you have persuaded and caused to believe into the practices of their denying fathers. **Dogs here means those who live without law and order, which are the fornicators.**"

"And they do not seize their neighbor's goods by injustice, like the dogs. **And swine means those who have no law, who are the pagan defiled ones.** These have no hope at all in mercy. **They are reserved for judgment,** as the Scripture says, '**For the moment their souls leave their bodies, they shall enter into condemnation.**' And because of this, the wicked shall not rise from hell, **and the sinners shall not enter the counsel of the righteous.** This is because they did not precede (others) in holiness and have no hope for salvation and mercy."

"**For they consumed their hope and pleasure on earth in all evil deeds,** and did the will of their heart, **and not the will of God.** And because of this, they entered into condemnation, **and they shall not be brought into the Holy City,** and they have no hope of salvation."

"**O Leaders of the Church, keep the order that you have received from God and from us,** so that you may walk in every commandment that we have commanded you."

"It has been established by canon **that they should not steal the property of the Church and should not make what is not theirs their own sorrow (loss) for the Church,** for what belongs to the Church belongs to God. And he who steals (takes) without the consent of the leaders of the Church **has ignored God.**"

"**The memory of such a person who steals the property of the House of God shall be blotted out from the earth,** and in the heavens, he shall be placed in a place of torment from which he shall never emerge forever. **And the stewards of the House of God shall not be suspected or asked, 'Where did you take it?'** For they give to the afflicted because of God."

"**For the trust in all the holy possessions of the Tabernacle was given to them from God.** If God, knowing that He gave them the key to the Kingdom of Heaven, trusts them, **how should they not be trusted with the passing wealth of this world?**"

"**Keep the order, both internal and external, of the Holy Church,** to be done in soul and body, both hidden and manifest, **so that you may stand joyful in the marriage courtyard of Christ** when He appears in His glory to judge the living and the dead."

"**Christ will give the righteous the reward of their righteousness,** and to the sinners who did not do His will, **He will give them the reward of their sin: the condemnation of the fire of hell.** And I say to you, keep our commandment that we have commanded you, **and do not turn to the right or to the left.**"

"**For God will rebuke you if your administration in the Holy Tabernacle is not corrected.** But if you correct your administration and do all that we have commanded you, **you shall sit with us on the thrones of the Seraphim, and you shall judge those who are under you.**"

"And for those who did not do your will (accept your teaching), **their reward is the condemnation of the fire of hell forever.** But you, **do not cease from telling and teaching those who are under you until the day of their death.** You, too, correct your manner of life until the day of your death, **so that you may rejoice with Him in the marriage feast of the Groom.**"

"And at that time, you shall say, **'Here am I and the children whom God has given me,'** and you shall rejoice with your spiritual children in the Kingdom of Heaven. **And at that time, they and we shall give thanks to God together.** And if you walk according to the order of the Holy Church, **He (God) will help you and strengthen you in doing His commandments, so that you may learn to do His will.**"

"**Strengthen your hearts, and do not be troubled by storms, or by winds, or by the power of demons,** whether by what is seen or by what is unseen."

"**For fear that is outside of the faith brings with it a plague from God.** Only the fear of God is profitable, for **the fear of God protects one from every snare** that may come upon him,"

"Whether by word, or by deed, or by the act of the conscience of this world."

"**Be wise in doing the will of God, for God has chosen you to minister to the Tabernacle that He purified with His Blood,** to be a place for the remission of sin. **You, tell the stewards of the Church if there is a man who leaves his wife and children without teaching and making them know the way of God, under the pretext of endurance (monasticism).**"

"**And also, if there is a woman who despises her husband and leaves her children without raising them,** for God will not accept those who do this under the pretext of endurance and corrupt their children. **And he who wishes to become a seeker of God should do so before marriage, and not after he has married and**

begotten children."

"And after he has married and begotten children, **he should raise them and teach them and discipline them with good manners, so that they may know the way of God.** And after that, **they shall be corrected by repentance until the day of their death.** And after they have repented, if they sin, **their former repentance shall not condemn them.**"

"**Only the fear of God is profitable.** He who fears God is protected from every destruction that may come upon him, whether by word, or by deed, or by thinking about the state of this world."

"**Be wise in doing the will of God, for God has chosen you to minister to the Tabernacle that He purified with His Blood, to be a place for the remission of sin.** You, tell the stewards of the Church if there is a man who leaves his wife and children **without teaching and making them know the way of God, under the pretext of endurance (monasticism).**"

"**And also, if there is a woman who leaves her husband and comes saying, 'I will be a nun,' and leaves her children who are growing up,** warn the stewards of the Church not to receive them. God will not accept the asceticism of all those who separate from their family in this way. **He who wishes to be an ascetic should become a monk while he is young, before he marries.** After he marries and begets children, he cannot become an ascetic (he must not abandon his family)."

"After he has married and begotten children, **he should raise them by teaching them the way of God, and disciplining and controlling them with good upbringing,** so that they may follow the way of God. And until the day of their death, they should be corrected by repentance. **If he sins again after repenting, his former repentance shall not serve for his second destruction (sin).**"

"**Therefore, command them to keep their bodies in purity, and be an example to the children of Christians,** so that they may cleanse their bodies from every evil deed, that is, **from fornication, from eating what is dead and polluted, from bloodshed by treachery, from drinking the blood of man without reason, and from eating the flesh of one's neighbor (slander).** And command them to be protected from other evil deeds."

"Christians should abstain from drinking excessive wine. **A person who drinks too much intoxicating drink forgets his conscience.** Especially the consecrated ones—Bishops, Priests, and Deacons—**should not waste time drinking wine.** Excessive drinking darkens the conscience and leads to depravity."

"**If priests are involved in drunkenness, they should be removed from their priesthood and dismissed from their rank,** for they are unable to rebuke and teach the people. **Their removal after being seen drunk can be a lesson to others.** Through this alone, many can abstain from drunkenness and fornication."

"**Drunkenness darkens the heart and weakens the conscience,** and makes a person a dwelling place for the Devil. The Holy Spirit leaves him and distances itself. **In connection with this, command the stewards of the Church to distance themselves from wrath and anger,** for the anger of man does not bring about the righteousness of God."

"**If any of the priests practices habitual anger, he shall be removed from his priesthood.** And if any of the lay people bears false witness against his neighbor, counsel him to turn from his sin. **If he refuses to repent, he shall be removed from the sonship of the Holy Church.**"

"**If anyone divorces his wife without her committing adultery and without her being caught in fornication,** whether a lay person or otherwise, **command him to stand outside the church for seven years,** for God has

united them and said they are one flesh, and no one should separate them. **Teach the other lay people not to divorce their wives unjustly.**"

"**If he who divorced his wife unjustly refuses to return with instruction and by the canon of the Church, he shall be removed and dismissed from the membership and sonship of the Church.**"

"**If anyone does not respect his father and mother, and does not honor them with the fear of God, he shall be rebuked and disciplined by the doctors of the Church.** If he refuses to return, he shall be expelled from the Church."

"However, a person found in this fault **should stand outside the faithful for twelve years** before he is expelled from the Church."

"**If a wife kills her husband at home with sorcery or poison, and if this deed is known, she shall be banned from the Holy Communion (Body and Blood of Christ) until the day of her death,** and she shall remain as one who is excommunicated until she dies."

"**If she confirms her repentance, she shall fast all the days of her life, abstaining from foods containing butter and milk (fattening foods), eating only dry food at the ninth hour.** And there shall be no fellowship with the people. And because of God's love for humanity, **the prayer of repentance shall be repeated for her on the day of her death,** so that God may forgive her sin, and she may be saved on the Day of Judgment (for the observer as well)."

"**And again, command the kings and officials to follow the law of the Church** until they understand that they are just like any common person under the law of the Church. **Teach them not to come to the Church with pride and arrogance.** Ensure they do not become haughty because of their worldly authority. **For Uzziah became a leper due to his pride.**"

"When the prophet Isaiah saw King Uzziah and did not rebuke him, **the gift of prophecy that dwelt in him was taken away from Isaiah the prophet.** But after King Uzziah died, God appeared to Isaiah the prophet as before."

"Therefore, he said, '**In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the living God sitting on His lofty and high throne, and His house was full of glory.** Seraphim and Cherubim surrounded Him, **and the sound of their praise was exceedingly amazing and wondrous.**'"

See how God was angered at Isaiah for not rebuking Uzziah the king. And likewise, you, **Church Officials, rebuke the kings and the rulers when they come in arrogance to the place of the altar.**

And furthermore, concerning their evil deeds, **correct them and do not fear them** regarding the commandment of God, **for a God who is more awe-inspiring than them is with you**. And if you do not, you yourselves shall be condemned.

You, too, **O kings and rulers, why do you not listen to the word of the priests** who have spoken to you, for the priests are called **the mouth of God**. Do not despise them, for they are the people of the Eye in the great country that is in the heavens.

Remember how **John baptized Jesus, though He was the Creator**. Because of this, **honor the teachers of the Church.** You, O priests, **do not be afraid to rebuke the sinners** in every matter you have seen and heard of their sin.

If there is a Church official who takes an offering and a vow, and does not give to the poor and to the needy of the Church, but instead uses it for his own benefit, he shall be severed from the authority of the Holy Church. **And all who diminish the censure (anathema/excommunication)** from the archbishops, priests, and deacons, they have no justification from the one who excommunicated them. And the one who accepts a person who has been excommunicated by other rulers, he himself shall be condemned with him.

If he was unjustly condemned, let him appeal to the seat of the Archbishop, and the bishops shall assemble for him and determine if he was unjustly condemned. They shall restore him to his former rank.

A priest shall not go again to the assembly of those who marry a second time, lest God smite him with His wrath. And he shall not associate with the feasts of sinners, nor shall he bless their house, nor their festival. And he shall not choose their children for the work of the priesthood, for they are the children of abandonment.

Even if they bring wheat and incense, it is vain and corrupt in the presence of God. **You, O priests, let their prayer not be accepted before God.** Command them to purify themselves from corruption and fornication, so that their seed and their children may be blessed by your word.

You, too, so that you may be participants in the good world, we have taught you and rebuked you and brought you to the true way of salvation.

Tell the Church officials to declare if anyone is found in fornication, or for going to a married man's wife, or for seducing a virgin, or for fathering a child from a harlot. If he confesses his fault and is reproved with witnesses, and if the word of the witnesses is trustworthy from those who have no falsehood, **he shall be severed from the authority of the Holy Church.**

Also, we forbid them entry into the heavens, for **the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven are in our hands.** And by our word, all workers of iniquity who have not kept the order of the Holy Church shall be cut off from the door of light. Let them be separated.

For I am Peter, your spiritual father, whom our Lord God named a rock, so that you may be built upon my foundation in the faith, since He is the foundation for me also. I have established this by my ability so that they may not transgress against the Holy Church of my Lord and God Jesus Christ.

My son, Clement, strengthen the order that I have established for you, and do not reveal the profound mystery to those who lack knowledge, lest the word of God become an object of ridicule among them, while they distort and disregard the commandment that I have commanded you concerning the Church and concerning my God.

I made Simon the sorcerer fall in those days because of his evil deed, and I cursed Ananias who defrauded concerning the sale of the wine. And immediately, an angel took the sword of slaughter and smote him, and he died with one blow. And likewise, his wife died after him. This is because they transgressed the order of the Holy Church.

With a bishop who walks in purity, the **Angel of God is present with him and fulfills his will.**

Therefore, direct the children of the Church well in all your deeds, for those who lack knowledge despise the commandment of God.

Establish the order of the Church after the likeness of the Heavenly Jerusalem, in which the **Angels of God praise without ceasing.** God does not desire the matter of the treacherous and the rebellious, for He is Holy, and is sanctified by the saints, and He does not desire lying lips, for He is praised by the saints, and He is loved by the pure, and He is exalted by the diligent. And He does not accept the offering of sinners.

If there is a bishop in the episcopacy, or a pope in the papacy, or a deacon in the work of the priesthood, or a sub-deacon in the diaconate, or a lector in the work of the sub-diaconate, or a layman in the work of the lectorate, or a deaconess in the work of the laity, or a woman in the work of the virgins, or a girl in the work of the women, **and everyone who transgresses the ranks of the Holy Church that we have mentioned is excommunicated, and he shall be severed from the rank of the Holy Church.**

We have no authority to restore them, but **the Angel of God shall be angry at him and strangle him like Judas Iscariot**, the rebellious one who separated himself from our assembly, and strangled himself as taught by his father, Satan.

If there is one who embezzles the property of another, or who keeps his property unjustly, whether it be an animal, or the property of another, or gold or silver, **he shall repay it double to the one who owns it.**

And if he embezzles the property of the Church, **he shall pay it five-fold**, because he embezzled the property of the Church, the house of God. We have established this by canon law so that no one may embezzle the property of another or be rebellious.

If there is a bishop, priest, or deacon who takes usury, and by usury increases his property, **he shall be severed from the rank of the Church and shall be removed from his rank.**

And if there is a bishop, priest, or deacon who maliciously accuses his friend to kings and rulers and testifies concerning a fault he has committed against him, **he shall be severed from his rank.**

If there is a layman who divorces his wife without cause of fornication against her, and marries a divorced woman, **he shall stop until he repents.**

If there is a Christian who goes to a place of singing and dancing and enters the house of the theater and gets drunk and enters the house of harlotry, **he shall be severed from the Church.**

If there is a child of the Church who enters the synagogue of the Jews or the synagogue of the Gentiles and prays with them, and eats of their festivals and their sacrifices, **he shall be severed from the rank of the Church.**

If there is a bishop, priest, or deacon, or a layman who believes in the sayings of stargazers, fortune-tellers, and soothsayers, and loves them, **they shall be severed from the Church.** And if they sacrifice with fire, or water, or trees, by this also they shall be severed from the Church.

But if a layman does this, **he shall stand outside the Church until he repents** and is admitted back into it with prayer and supplication with tears.

The Church is like a ship which the waves, winds, and storms beat against, but she is not disturbed because of what has been done, and she is directed. **She shall not be disturbed, nor shall she shake, nor shall she sink because of the sins of the great kings.**

Its foundation is built on the faith of the Cross, and its rowers are on its right and on its left, who do not leave her until she reaches the harbor of salvation. And **the world is the likeness of the sea**, and the waves, the storm, and the winds are the fortune-tellers and soothsayers who disturb the whole world.

They, along with those who listen to them, shall descend into the sea of fire and shall be plunged into it, where there is no end forever.

And again, we are the ones who make straight the way of our ship, the Holy Church, and **we remove the thorns of the wicked from her** and from the hearts of those who desire to corrupt their neighbors. They also are

corrupted and they are judged with them, as we are also in judgment when they find fault with our ministry in the Holy Church.

For **idolatry and sorcery are more evil than all sin** in the presence of God. Now then, **O teachers of the Church, do not stray from our canon.** Rebuke the Christian people who have erred, lest God be angry with you when you stand before Him.

Be extremely careful about the time that God has given you for your life, regarding the ministry you have not done well. For the servant who knows the will of his master and does not do it shall have a great punishment, and the one who does not know shall have a small punishment.

Correct your ways, O children of the Church, and keep what we have established for you by the word of our Lord Jesus Christ.

You, **O bishops, do not appoint a person to the priesthood whom you have found to be lawless and without humility.** And you shall inquire about those who are without blemish in their speech. If he does not speak and does not utter anything, what good is his deed? **Do not appoint one who is leprous** in the Church, lest the people become disgusted when they receive in his hands the body and blood of the Creator of all the world.

And if he is lame and cannot walk without a staff, he shall not be a priest. But if he can walk without a staff, he is able to be appointed. **Let him be a priest whose conduct is good for the work of God**, and who has knowledge and understanding, and the interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, and who straightens the way of the truly spiritual word, and who returns his people to the true way of repentance so that they may be reconciled with our Lord and God Jesus Christ.

And if there are rebellious people and heretics among the people who receive baptism, **they shall not be appointed to the priesthood until their conduct is known.** Guard against the wolves who snatch the sheep of the flock of Christ.

A good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. Our Lord redeemed us when they seized Him on that night and wanted to seize us also. And He said to them: **"Let these go, for you seek Me."**

I, Peter, was very weak and I often transgressed my word, and I said, "I will not deny You, I will die with You." This I said when we, the sheep of His flock, were with Him. **He redeemed us with His blood.**

He was slaughtered for us and for all sinners, like a blameless lamb, and no deceitful words were found in His mouth, so that He might save us from the snatching wolf. **It is right for us also to lay down our lives for our sheep** who are under us, and not to surrender our lives to the snatching wolves.

But we shall direct them in every good deed, and we shall bring them back to Him, and they shall keep the order of the Holy Tabernacle, and they shall be cautious of the deception of the generation of the rebels and the iniquitous who the devil has enslaved and taught them all evil deeds. They shall resist the Holy Church when they bring the curse.

And if there is a Christian who transgresses this canon, and refuses to obey what the bishops and priests command, **he shall not be included with the sheep of the flock of Christ.** He shall be cut off from the Church for as long as the priests and archpriests command, and he shall return to the Holy Church all the debt he took unjustly.

If there is a bishop, priest, or deacon who defrauds the property of the Church, whether it be oil or incense, **they shall receive rebuke and condemnation according to the measure they have defrauded.**

If there is one of them who has a child from a harlot and his sin is revealed, **he shall be severed from his rank.**

We did not flee them, but went out and came down, and brought them to God by teaching them. And let them keep the order of the Holy Tabernacle. The heretic called **Absis** rose up, raising disputes, and he took many followers who align themselves against the Church. **His followers are people of heresy and rebellion, so guard yourselves from their wickedness.**

Even if there are Christians who do not fulfill what is stated above, and if the bishops and priests, out of laziness, do not execute what has been commanded, **let him who is noticed be forbidden from the Church until he fulfills everything.** And let him repay in double the money or time he wasted out of laziness.

If a bishop, priest, or deacon is found to have **stolen the property of the Church**, whether it be oil, or wax (for candles), or anything similar, **let him receive the punishment due to him** by the decision of the Church teachers. If one of them **fathers a child from harlot women**, he shall be excommunicated and cast out of the Church, or if he **commits adultery with a man's wife, he shall be severed from his rank.**

Every husband shall abide with his wife, and every wife shall abide with her husband; for this is the work of the assembly of the Holy Church.

If a woman, while married, goes to another man and commits fornication, **her husband shall divorce her, and she shall remain a widow until she completes her repentance.** If her husband does not wish to divorce her after she commits fornication with another man, **both of them have separated from God.** Therefore, **let both be separated from the Church until they complete their repentance.**

And when they complete their repentance and return to the true repentance, **they shall be received by the people.** However, if they are priests or deacons and they commit this, **they shall immediately be severed from their ranks.** For priests are those who always see the mystery of God with the eye of their conscience.

And God dwells among the priests, because their eyes of conscience are always turned toward God. If there is one who says, "I am a priest, but I do not see God," he does not understand the mystery of repentance, and he does not seek the remission of sins from God, so let him remain as he is.

As Elijah the Tishbite said, **"The Lord, before whom I stand this day, is living,"** the mystery of God was not given to people like Elijah. **But it was given to you, and you have tasted His grace,** you, the workers of His Kingdom, who feed His people, while teaching them good deeds and to avoid fornication.

If you, the priests, engage in sin, **who will teach you and who will correct your ways** on this earth? Indeed, the fire of hell awaits you. **Correct your ways and rebuke your wives** so that they may turn away from all evil that does not please God.

And let the women be **teachers and rebukers for those who are like them.** If they are righteous, let them rebuke the younger virgins and their own daughters, and also others who walk in the law of the Holy Church. If they are able, let them rebuke them and **bring them back to a good way of life.**

If there is a woman who is unwilling to accept their counsel, let the women tell their husbands so that the Church canon may be applied to them. **Be zealous for righteousness and for good deeds, from the least to the greatest of you,** as the Apostle said, "Be zealous for the greater gift." And let the women who have knowledge counsel their neighbors and remove them from evil.

Women should follow the path of **Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, the prophetess**, who praised God day and night, and whose lips did not cease from prayer and for others. Let them seek to serve God with all their heart

and with all good deeds that please Him, whether married or single, so that He may save them from fornication.

You believing women, remember that God is the God of yesterday and today, acknowledging Him. You should speak, **"We are Your servants, O God, and though we are weak, we have kept Your commandment.** Now, include us with Your blessed sheep who were before us." God says, "Blessed are you who kept your conscience and purified your flesh because of My great and honored name."

And our Lord commanded us, saying, **"Keep My commandment, and do not distinguish between male and female, Jew or Gentile, slave or free."** If they are baptized and do good, they are one with Me. We also establish an order for those who honor their marriage and for those who keep their virginity without fornication. Our brother Paul wrote concerning them and counseled them, saying, "I command them by my own commandment, not from God, my Lord."

Let virgins and married women be patient. And if they cannot endure patience, let them marry, **for it is better to marry than to burn with lust (fornication).**

It is commanded by God that they keep themselves and not wander outside their husbands.

You field, keep yourself, and do not sow a foreign seed, for your husband alone is the one who consoles you in your sorrow. If you do this, your seed will be blessed.

All this came from God. **You also, keep the commandment, and read all that is written carefully.** You will not gain knowledge without the Book and teaching. **Learn from the teachers and listen to the word of the Books.**

Place the word of God in your hearts, and **do not forget the word of your teacher.** Love your neighbor as yourself, for **"the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."** The letter is the Law (Old Testament), and the Spirit is the Gospel.

Walk in the way of the Gospel so that you may live, and keep the canon law so that you may learn to do good and the will of God. Do not neglect listening to the word of the divine Books, for they are known by their word.

Because the divine Books are known by their word, the Holy Church warns that false books should not be added to them. For if an evil thing enters the ear, it corrupts the good heart.

Do not be doubters, but keep the canon of the Holy Church so that you may save yourselves from this evil world before death comes to you and brings you down to hell if you have not kept the order of the Holy Church.

Guard yourselves from drunkenness as you enter it. For in the first law, which is the Law, Moses commanded the Levites not to be drunk. Likewise, you, **bishops, priests, and deacons, guard yourselves from drunkenness,** for from drunkenness come madness, fornication, greed, slander, pride, false swearing, and forgetfulness of many good things.

Guard yourselves from excessive wine-drinking and drunkenness, and instead, be diligent in drinking the word of God and the divine Books, for we have all drunk one body and one spirit. Because of this, we all become brothers. And when we stand before Him, we shall all rejoice together.

The devil and his demons do not wish that a single human being should be saved. If they can, **they enslave all who have not kept the commandment of God.**

Command the laypeople to give alms from what they have of their household produce so that God may bless them. Even if there is a poor person who is lacking from his daily food, let him cut off and give good things from that food.

If he does this, **God will set him over the people in this world, and in the world to come, with the assembly of the saints.** Do not neglect to do good so that you may pass from death to life, and **do not associate with the rebellious in faith.**

You, children of the Church, **do not neglect to do this thing that we have told you.** Command the people to do what we have established for you.

If there is one who stands and does not do what we have established for you, **he shall fall from the rank of the Holy Church.**

Keep the order of the Holy Church, which is of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that you may be children of your Father who is in heaven, for He is kind to the kind.

He is kind to the kind, and He does not neglect a sinner because of his sin. Everything is for Him, and everything is from Him, and everything is by His will. Everything is spread out and revealed. Keep the order of the Church and do not depart from it, so that you may find joy in your entrances and your exits within it.

For our Lord Jesus Christ commanded us, the twelve apostles, **to establish His people in righteousness and justice, and not to show partiality to the person of man.** But according to the canon of the Church, it is proper to have standing and mercy. And let us not give the people another reason for them to depart from the order of the Church.

For there are those who depart from the order of the Church with excuses, saying, "Our rulers commanded us to do the will of those who govern the world, and we cannot diligently observe the order of the Church."

Therefore, they have not done well, and God will condemn them. For **it is right that kings and rulers should obey the order of God concerning their souls.**

For **it is better to value the soul than the body,** for those who only value the body are compelled to show partiality to men. But those who desire to show partiality to God will not lack both the body and the soul.

For He Himself teaches them how to show partiality to Him according to His will, and God leads them to do His commandments.

If there is one who transgresses the order of the Church, and the leaders of the Church rebuke him and condemn him by the law of iniquity, and he has not transgressed, **let the leaders of the Church not judge him,** but he has sought refuge with the rulers of the world and refused to be rebuked according to what they taught him.

Such a person **shall stand cut off from the Church, and he shall not be counted with the people until he repents.** And there is no second appeal to the Archbishop.

If there is a layman or a priest who receives an excommunicated person, **he is cut off from the Church and shall be excommunicated with the sinner he received.**

It is right for priests to receive sinners for repentance without partiality, and **let them not receive a bribe from the penitents to lighten the repentance.** Instead, let them give repentance without partiality. And if he is an idol worshipper, let them make his repentance heavy, for **of all sin, the worship of idols is the most evil** in the presence of God.

Keep the canon law that was given to the believing Christian people who walked in good deeds and spent their lives in righteous deeds and in repentance, so that they may rejoice forever and ever with Jesus Christ who redeemed them with His blood.

When Christ was crucified, His side was pierced, and from it flowed blood and water. **And with the water that flowed from His side, He sanctified the Church** so that it might be a mystery for the remission of sins. For she is our mother, who is in heaven.

And **the soul of a Christian is the bride of the Church.** Those who commit sin and walk lawlessly, and those who turn their eyes toward another man's wife to mislead, **shall not be included in her flock.**

Those who practice sorcery and idolatry in their houses, and those who commit fornication and revelry in their houses and yards, and those who do not love strangers and orphans, and those who justify themselves in vain and despise their neighbors, **are cast out, far away, and rejected from the canon law of the Holy Church.**

Such people are separated from the teaching of the Gospel. **If they leave their evil deeds and repent, let them return to their former ranks.** For you have knowledge, so do what is proper.

Show compassion to those you wish to show compassion to, and rebuke those you wish to rebuke, and cut off those you wish to sever from the rank of the Church.

Make their repentance heavy according to the multitude of their sin, and lighten their repentance according to the fewness of their sin.

So that God may rejoice in you, for **the children of the Church are people of mercy.** And do not be excessive in condemning the evil person to please your friend, and do not despise the young who have knowledge.

It is not only the elders who have knowledge, but there are others. It is not by the length of days or by age. **Examine their hearts and their knowledge, and command them to rebuke the people.**

When they come to Him with a pure heart, **command them not to return to their former sin.** Be an example to the people who desire to save themselves by your teaching and by the good spiritual teaching that brings them to God with a bright face, so that they may rejoice with the righteous.

Do not walk in the counsel of the wicked and sinners who do not love repentance. They say on this earth, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die, and we do not know what will happen to the dead." And if they do not rise, they will become dust over a long period. And if a thousand people are buried in one grave, not a handful of dust will be found.

By this, they mislead themselves and mislead their neighbors, and bring them to condemnation. But **God shows no partiality to the person,** but by the judgment of righteousness, He pays all according to their work.

For God spoke to Moses concerning the resurrection of the dead at the Burning Bush and said to him, **"I am not the God of the dead, but the God of the living."** For the righteous are not dead in His presence, but living. For the sinners shall die again, but **the righteous shall not die again, but life shall await them,** for they shall rejoice always with Him in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Even if the sinners are alive in their bodies, they are dead in their souls before God. Adam, our father, while he was in the Garden, was alive in his soul and his body, and he communed with the angels. And the wild beasts would come and bow down to him, and the birds of the air would obey him. But when he sinned, he died in his soul.

And the angels who communed with him drove him out of the Garden. The wild beasts and the birds became enemies to him, and they desired to eat his flesh, and they did not obey him.

Likewise, all sinners who commit sin after baptism are dead in their souls while they are alive in their bodies on the earth. **You, therefore, kill your body from fornication and give life to your soul for God** with good deeds and righteousness.

And again, **kill your soul from all evil and corruption** that does not please God. And give life to your soul and your body, and join yourself to the Church so that you may pass from death to life.

I am Peter, the chief of the Apostles, your spiritual father, and not in the flesh, but a commander in the spirit, which my God gave me. I am your teacher, and I gave it to Clement, my son, so that he may command those who have knowledge, and that it may not be revealed to those who lack knowledge, lest my word become a mockery among them.

For our Lord commanded us likewise when we were with Him on the Mount of Olives and said to us, **"Do not give to those who cannot receive, and do not show them, lest they defame My Holy Name."** For it is not sinners who keep My word and My commandment, but the righteous who love My word and keep everything.

As it is written in the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son," He returned from Egypt to Nazareth and reached Galilee. And with His good fragrance, He made all the countries beautiful, including the Sea of Tiberias and as far as the Sea of Jericho.

The prophet Zechariah, in prophesying about this, said, **"In that day, living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the former sea and half of them toward the latter sea. In that day, the Lord shall be one, and His name one."** All who call on the name of the Lord with a pure heart shall be saved.

Through His fragrance, the Apostles, their good fragrance, made the whole world fragrant from the rising of the sun to the setting, from the south to the north, and all the ends of the earth.

The Apostle said concerning this, **"We are the fragrance of Christ."** And by the holy fragrance of Christ, the saints went into the wilderness as monks and abandoned the world. By the fragrance of Christ, the martyrs became strong and delivered their bodies to death, leaving behind relatives and children, and neglecting the pleasures and delights of this world.

With the fragrance of Christ, the hearts of the faithful were filled, and even though they were earthly, they became heavenly. Although they were on earth, they were seen as though they were with the heavenly beings. The fragrance of Christ, being from His Father in heaven, was poured into the womb of the Virgin Mary.

And **His fragrance was poured from jar to jar,** for one of the prophets said, **"Your name is an ointment poured forth from your lips."** He did not say "poured out," but "Your name is an ointment poured from jar to jar."

This jar of fragrance makes the whole world fragrant, and the jar itself is fragrant, and the fragrance of the jar does not depart from the intellect of man. **Likewise is the fragrance of Christ, which is in all of us, the faithful, who are baptized in the faith of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the Holy Church.**

Listen, O my son Clement, to what my Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Heaven and Earth, the Creator of the whole world, told me: That **in the latter days, many will deny their faith, and love will diminish** among many brethren, and **many false prophets and false Christs will come** and mislead people with their wicked deeds and their corrupted faith.

Because the end of the world is near, they will bring forth evil deeds that are not from the Holy Church. At that time, Satan will find a reason among them to mislead people, for he will find a way through their words, and **those who are misled will weep.**

It is not only they who are misled and perish, but they also mislead others with their deceit. In those days, the shepherds (priests) will be those who scatter their flock and **do not accept their repentance.**

Woe to those who live their lives in this manner when they stand before the judgment seat of God, for God will first rebuke them, and after them, He will condemn the nations who did not keep the word and the commandment of God, and He will drag them to condemnation.

In those days, a king whose work is only evil will come and cause the sun to rise from the west, and the moon from Elam (the place of casting lots). At that time, **Zebulun and Naphtali shall stretch out their necks, and Capernaum shall boast, and Chorazin and Bethsaida shall rejoice,** for they will call this wicked king "Christ." But later, when they see his work, they will stamp their feet.

This king's rule is distorted and mixed with partiality.

At that time, because of the multitude of human sin, **nature will rebel against them. God will withhold the rain from heaven, and the summer (rainy season) will become dry.** The earth will remain without dew and without moisture. Instead of rain, **dust and dryness will cover the air on earth.**

The springs of water will not bring forth water, and the sea will dry up. These evil days will, however, be shortened. If these days were not shortened, **no living creature would be saved.** But because of His chosen ones (the saints) who were chosen by God, lived their lives according to His will, and did not corrupt their holiness, **these days will be shortened for their sake.**

This deceiving king will first place his image in Jerusalem, the city of the Great King, and say, "Worship my image." Then, he will command the people to worship it in all places where sacrifices are offered.

He will say, **"I have revoked the commandment I previously established and nullified it."** Since he is the false Christ, at that time, they will understand his false messianic nature, saying, **"Our Lord did not tell us that he would nullify the Gospel, Paul, the Acts of the Apostles, and all their books."** They will go so far as to say, **"Christ did not tell us that he would destroy the Books and their people."**

We will not listen to this word of error. And there are those who will flee and leave their relatives, hiding in caves and mountains, based on the prophecy of Isaiah, who said, **"Come, my people, enter your chambers, and hide yourselves for a little while until the indignation is past."** Others, however, will face him directly, and **deliver their necks to the sword and receive martyrdom.** Thus, what is written in the Gospel will be fulfilled.

What is written in the Gospel is, **"When the fig tree's branches are tender, you know that summer is near."** The fig leaves are those righteous people who were exiled and received martyrdom.

After this, Enoch and Elijah will descend from Paradise and preach. They will put to shame that heretic, the enemy of righteousness, the son of lies. **And they will be immediately slain by the sword.**

Michael and Gabriel will lift them up and take them into the Paradise of delight, and not a drop of their blood will fall to the ground.

And for the last enemy (the devil), death will immediately destroy him from his rising. At that time, **God will come from heaven to fulfill His covenant of His Kingdom with His chosen saints. The trumpet will be blown by the mouth of Michael, the Chief of the Angels.**

At the first blowing of the trumpet, all the bodies that had become dust will be gathered. At the second blowing of the trumpet, the treasuries where the souls are stored will be opened. The souls will come out of the treasuries and enter their own bodies. **The dew of mercy that drives away sorrow will descend upon them from God.**

Isaiah, referring to this, said, **"For Your dew is life to them." And at the third blowing of the trumpet, the dead will rise in the twinkling of an eye,** and He will set them before His face, as He sets the sheep on His right hand and the goats on His left. And He will rebuke and dismiss those on the left, those who did not keep His commandment, saying, **"You cursed ones." And while weeping, the demons will take them away to the place of suffering and darkness.**

The righteous, who stand on His right hand, will enter into eternal life, where there is no disease or pain, and from which they shall not die again. **It is a place of pleasure and joy, and their joy shall not end forever and ever.**

And the suffering and tribulation of the sinners shall not end forever and ever, but they will remain weeping and suffering constantly, and **their souls will not be separated from their bodies forever and ever.**

This day on which all this shall happen is a fearful day, a day of weeping and terror. It is the day when the righteous weep for the sinners, and the sinners weep for their sins. The angels of heaven also weep for the sinners. **On this day, everyone shall enter their inheritance:** those who did good shall enter the dwelling place of life, and **those who did evil shall enter eternal condemnation.**

My brethren, think about what is stated above and consider it. Do not neglect it. Open your hearts to God. **We have explained this to you as we teach you about the order of the Holy Church,** just as our Lord Jesus Christ taught us. Our Lord told us, **"Do not despise one of these little ones who believe in Me."**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said to us, "My angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven." The angels are the priests. **These priests who have heart and mind are the true priests.** Kings and rulers despise them and make little of them when the priests teach them.

I will bring all who despise the priests to condemnation. And the priests will be witnesses against them for their destruction. **Do not despise the words of the priests, but receive their words.** If you properly fulfill all that the priests command you and keep your sonship to the Holy Church, **you have no sin.**

For the priests are vigilant for your sake all day and night, and they pray for the remission of your sins.

You deacons also, be zealous in your ministry like Stephen the martyr. He was fervent in the Holy Spirit. When he was stoned, he saw the heavens opened, and the Son of God sitting at the right hand of the Father, and he was filled with joy at this sight.

Likewise, you deacons, be like Stephen, the martyr of Christ. Furthermore, Stephen saw the Holy Spirit descending upon the altar within the veil. When he saw it, he was filled with joy. **So also, let the deacons be diligent and carry out their ministry with humility so that they may be worthy to be filled with joy by seeing the descent of the Holy Spirit.**

When the priest says, "Send the Holy Spirit upon this bread and this cup," the deacons, the children of the Holy Spirit, who have purified themselves, can see the Holy Spirit descending upon the altar of the Church. And they also receive a high seat, just as Stephen, the first martyr, was given in the Kingdom of Heaven.

But those who do not perform their ministry in purity and holiness will enter the ends of darkness with the devil, and they will remain there forever.

Command, O my son Clement, that all who are in charge of the flock of Christ should rebuke the people so that they may be afraid of these words and guard themselves from evil. **He who places an idol in his house and worships it is cursed.** Likewise, **he who divines by birds or follows a similar path of idolatry is cursed and excommunicated.**

A child who does not honor his father and mother, and does not fulfill their commands in all they desire, is cursed. Parents will cry out to God because of the wickedness of their children, and God will have mercy on the parents.

He who leads a blind person on the wrong path instead of showing and guiding him on the right path is cursed and excommunicated. He who speaks inappropriate words and abuses a deaf person, thinking, "He cannot hear me," is also cursed. He who corrupts all the order declared in the canon of the Holy Church is excommunicated.

He who does not love our Lord Jesus Christ, and he who does not believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and in the Holy Church, is cursed and excommunicated.

He who does not believe that God created the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land, and all that is in them, and he who does not acknowledge the Father as the Father, and the Son as the Son before the world, is cursed.

He who does not believe that the Holy Spirit, the third Person, proceeds from the Father, and that the three Persons created the heavens and the earth with one counsel, is cursed.

"Hear what is said: 'By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.'" He who does not believe that God fills the heavens and the earth with His divinity, and that He is eternal, is cursed.

If there is one who says, "God is not present in every place," he has not understood or perceived that **He is not defiled and does not defile, but He sanctifies all. He is cursed.**

Command them not to commit minor sins by the sight of the eyes, by the hearing of the ears, by the touch of the hands, by theft, by lying with the word and the tongue, as David said, **"My mouth shall not speak the works of men."** These are the minor sins that defile those who commit them.

He who goes to a place of singing and dancing, being a Christian, is defiled and despised. Let him stand apart from the Church until he completes his repentance.

God says, **"I am the Lord of the penitents, whom I receive when the sinner repents." He who denies justice to the orphans and the poor is extremely defiled. He who sees a person being oppressed and does not help him from the hand of him who takes away is despised. Sinners and covetous people love robbery.**

If a person who has stolen the property of the Church is found, **let him pay fivefold more than what he stole.** After that, let him repent, enter the Church, and be part of the communion. **He who despises the doctors of the**

Church is defiled, for they are the servants who obey the Lord of the Church.

He who gives a bribe to receive the authority of the priesthood when he is not worthy to be ordained, **is defiled.**

He who strikes a priest or a deacon, or commits any other injustice, is defiled.

The Church is the place where the angels and the assembly of the saints praise God together and rejoice in Him with the Heavenly Bridegroom. And **we also keep her gates and ways at all times, for the soul of a Christian is called the Bride of the King.** This was spoken of by the prophets in succession. Praise from Ezra, and drums and harps from David, are prepared for the Church.

We also shall put our heart in her power, and let us follow her and always greet the Holy Church, just as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ commanded us, saying, **"Do not go on the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter the city of the Samaritans."** The city of Samaria is the country where the children of Israel were taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar with their king and their priest, Jeremiah. The priest Jeremiah was exiled with the people of Israel so that he might prophesy to them there and not let them forget the word of God in their captivity.

When God turned His face towards the people of Israel to return them to their country, **Abimelech and Baruch sent a message to Jeremiah, saying, "Come, for God has reigned over us, and He is willing to give us priests, counselors, and rulers as before.** But **do not bring the apostate people with you; let them remain where they are."**

"Do not give your daughters to their sons, and do not take their daughters for your sons." "But you, O Israel, come by yourselves, so that God may not be angry and destroy our city again." (Baruch and Abimelech).

Jeremiah began to preach to his countrymen and said to the children of Israel, **"Leave the wives you took from the land of the Chaldeans, and return the sons you had by the women of the Chaldeans."**

The people of Israel said, "Yes," and rose up to return to Jerusalem, the city of the Great King. When they had traveled from the land of the Chaldeans for three days, **it was told to the prophet Jeremiah that they had not left the children and wives they had taken from the land of the Chaldeans.**

At that time, **Jeremiah asked the children of Israel, "Why did you act wickedly and commit such a dispute?"**

Jeremiah the priest separated those who said, "We will not leave our wives," and those who said, "We will leave them." And they stood in two groups on that day: those who said, "We will not leave," and those who said, "We will leave."

Those who said, "We will leave," went in with Jeremiah, **but those who said, "We will not leave," said to Jeremiah, "If you love us, love our children and wives, or else we will go back."**

Those who were willing to leave their wives and children returned to Jerusalem with Jeremiah, but the rest said to Jeremiah, "If you love us, love us with our children and our wives; otherwise, we will not leave our family and will return to where we were."

After saying this to Jeremiah, **they returned to the land of the Chaldeans where they had been.** When the Chaldeans saw them returning, they said, "The Israelites who left our country have returned, so let us prevent

them from entering." They quickly took up arms to drive them out again. They said to them, **"You left us before we drove you out; now, if you return, we will not allow you to enter your country."**

Having said this, they drove them away again. And they reached the place where they had traveled with Jeremiah for three days. **They decided to settle there, and that country was called the City of Samaria.**

Our Lord commanded us to preach the good news of the Gospel, saying, "Do not go on the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter the city of the Samaritans." The way of the Gentiles is very wide and leads to the path of destruction. **It includes vanity, fornication, drinking, drunkenness, false swearing, singing, dancing, and the like.**

But our Lord commanded us to teach the Gentiles to go on the narrow way. This narrow way leads to life. In it are humility, gentleness, longsuffering, mercy, love, peace, fasting, prayer, feeding the poor, giving alms, **loving the enemy, and the like, which are the ways of holiness.**

This narrow gate or way leads to eternal life, which is the place of eternal life. **A person's enemy is his own household.** If family members live in one house, they separate themselves because they do not have one nature.

This is the reason He said, **"I did not come to bring peace to the earth,"** referring to people separating themselves from their relatives for His name's sake.

Our Lord also commanded us to teach until the ends of the earth. Those who accept our teaching will enter eternal life. Those who say, "We will not accept your teaching," will enter eternal suffering. Their tribulation is upon their own heads. In the latter days, they will receive their rebuke and enter eternal darkness. **Our word is the word that the Son told us from His Father; our word is not idle.**

Our Lord said this about the Jews, **"If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have been without sin to be condemned for the errors they commit. But now I have come and spoken to them, and they have no excuse for their condemnation."** Without a doubt, the wicked will descend into the fire of Gehenna, for there is nothing that will bring them into Paradise.

When our Lord sent us to preach the Gospel, He said to us, **"He who hears you hears Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me, for My Father and I are one. All who receive the teaching that you give have received Me."** Therefore, **we shall stand up for all who received and heard our teaching in the Kingdom of Heaven, for they kept our word.**

We are the stewards of God's order. The children of God (the faithful) are made righteous by our word (who accept the order). **We have received them in trust from our God,** as the Lord told Moses to entrust the vessels of the Tabernacle to the children of Levi.

Again, God spoke to Moses in a way that was no less than what He showed him on Mount Sinai when He spoke to him in the pillar of cloud when he fasted forty days and forty nights to speak with Him.

Moses himself said, **"I was trembling and amazed night and day, for I did not eat bread or drink water** while I heard the judgment of God and how I should live, as He commanded me in the Holy Tabernacle which He had built before."

The Holy Tabernacle is likened to the soul of a Christian, which God the Father redeemed with the blood of His Messiah. Again, Moses said, "I saw a bush burning with fire beneath it."

And I approached to know its awesomeness, and a voice came out of the fire and said to me, "Remove your sandals from your feet, for the ground on which you stand is holy."

That is the Holy Church. Ezra also saw her in the vision of a **sorrowful and mournful woman weeping for her children.** When he saw her, she was not a woman but a spiritual city, and she is the Holy Church. **Her branches are olive branches, and her pillars and lamps, and her branches of oil, are on the right and on the left.**

Zechariah saw the golden lampstand in its entirety. The lampstand is called the Bridegroom of the Church, who is Christ. **And its lamps are the Apostles.** The one on the right hand being strong as a pillar is to show that when preaching Christ, **they did not fear kings and rulers.**

They did not draw back the right hand they had raised because of God, even when suffering physical torment from whipping, the sword, cutting, and stoning. **Martyrs also followed their path.**

He who does not despise the pleasures of this passing world, and who has not been able to live according to the order, is not from the Holy Church. If you are able, deliver your body to death for your faith and abide in the law of the Holy Church.

God commanded that all who are children of the Holy Church should perform true repentance in their lifetime so that they may rejoice together with our Lord.

The land of Paradise is said to be adorned with the fragrance of flowers. The flowers are not like the flowers of this world; **the sweetness of their fragrance is unique from all earthly flowers.** The fruit of Paradise also has a sweeter taste than any honeycomb. **Only those who keep the order of the Holy Church can obtain this.**

Let not wives be arrogant toward their husbands, and let widows speak a good spiritual word. They obtain good speech from giving to the kind person. **It is possible to serve God by giving gifts to the poor with a pure heart and a cheerful face.**

You, too, be kind, so that you may enter the dwelling place of the martyrs. For people like you, by strengthening their hearts, were able to enter the dwelling place of life that God prepared for them before the creation of the world. **You should be zealous for the grace that surpasses all, so that you may enter the place where they are.**

Keep the law of the Church, and live by the commandment of God. If there is one who does not keep the law of the Holy Church and sins, **let him not be a deacon until he becomes righteous,** so that others, seeing him, may fear. If a bishop delays from the morning praise of God, he shall be rebuked.

And again, we commanded that after entering, no one should leave the Church without the priest's dismissal.

He who enters the Church and engages in idle talk with his friend, instead of asking for the remission of sins and listening to the word of God that is read in the Holy Church, should understand that it is as though he has scorned God and despised the word of God. **The word of God that is read in the Church is sweeter than honeycomb.**

Good speech is better than giving. But a kind person includes both. **God loves and honors the person who includes both.** The person who gives alms without a joyful heart is not highly beloved before God.

The heavens shall be opened to the man who gives alms with joy, with spiritual fervor that comes from his heart. He will regard the needy, the widows, and the orphans not with contempt but with friendship and love. **And they, in turn, will put the sweet fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven into his mouth.**

You, too, be filled with spiritual zeal so that you may have the opportunity to enter the place where the martyrs are. The martyrs are people just like you, but **they did not spare their physical lives and passed through the most bitter suffering to become martyrs.** They inherited the place that God had prepared for them before the creation of the world. **You should be zealous for such grace.**

He who has defiled his body with sin and is not pure should not enter the Church until he repents and enters. For the Spirit of God is present where the sacrifice is prepared and the mysteries are performed. **All who call on the name of God in purity shall be saved.** For the Spirit of God is there to receive the prayer, and this Spirit of God sanctifies those who offer the sacrifice and those who pray in purity.

If you see one of our brethren who is bound by sin and corrupted by a bad situation, do not despise him lest he loses his hope. **Instead, present yourself as a sinner,** talk to him on his behalf, so that you may save him and bring him back from the depth of his sin, and **advise him to refrain from his sin as much as you can.**

And showing good humility, take him to the ordained priest of the Church. The priest should not impose a heavy burden of repentance on the penitent who comes to the Church after repenting and from his heart. **He must be careful that the punishment does not become too much for him and cause him to say, "It is too heavy for me to bear," and flee from me. "For I am the Lord who forgives the sin of the sinner, and I am the one who avenges the sin of him who does not repent."**

Bishops and priests, guard your flocks. If you do not do this, **God will punish you, and He will demand their blood of destruction from you.** Deacons also, if they do not perform their mission in purity, the punishment that awaits them from God is severe.

But you, guard the flock of God so that you may be great while you are small, by your teaching of the good word and by correcting the crooked heart with the sweet word of God.

The Church is the mother of the faithful who believe in God, and God bestows honor and praise upon them.

Hear this, O appointed officials of the Church, and hasten to speak and teach so that you may not be removed from the dwelling place of life. **It is not only that you will be removed, but you will be cast into weeping and gnashing of teeth,** for demons will bind their hands and feet and cast them into eternal condemnation. **Be diligent to be saved from this.**

They should first honor the Bishop of Rome, second the Bishop of Ephesus, third the Bishop of Alexandria, and fourth the Bishop who received the Chair of Luke (Antioch). Priests and deacons who live in the regions should go to them once a year. **The reasons for their going are, first, to have the books they taught from examined by the Bishop to ensure they contain no error, and second, to receive fatherly counsel.**

And let your teaching be spread like a veil embroidered with gold, and do not pervert the word of God, as it is said in the Gospel, **"Do not despise one of these little ones who believe in My name."**

Let your teaching be spread like a veil embroidered with gold, and do not pervert the word of God, as it is said in the Gospel, "Do not despise one of these little ones who believe in My name and follow Me."

If anyone is appointed to a high position in the Church (whether a Bishop or an Archbishop) and insists on a higher rank, he shall be excommunicated from the rank of the Holy Church. We say that he shall be excommunicated from the rank of the Holy Church because **the appointment given to him was not merely for honor, but for the authority to guard the flocks of God.** It is not necessary for him to be transferred from his post to another if he commits an error. If he commits an error, he should be dismissed, as he cannot guard the flocks of God, for **spiritual authority does not distinguish between big or small.**

He shall not move from it out of love for worldly gain or for a greater title, for the canon of the Church is not for disturbance, but it is a spiritual tranquility and a harbor of salvation that leads us to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we said before, the world is a sea, and its waves are the thoughts that confuse people and drown the soul, both knowingly and unknowingly.

We will bring the children of the Church to our Lord Jesus Christ and to the Paradise of joy. My brethren, **you must trust in God so that you do not depart from His commandment, His law, and His order.**

Teach your companions (brethren) to turn away from the evil way so that they may rejoice at the wedding feast of the Bridegroom.

Again, let them guard themselves by the canon of the Holy Church so that they do not sin against God, for we are the eye-witnesses of the Heavenly City. The Heavenly City is the Holy Church, for she intercedes for all those who hasten to her and delivers them to God, **saying, "These are My faithful children who hasten to Me at all times."**

Everyone, be it a Bishop, a Priest, a Deacon, or a layperson, must hasten to the Church morning and evening to receive teaching. If he fails to do so, he shall be punished, and **if he stops coming without a physical illness, he shall be excommunicated.** If he does not go to the Church morning and evening to hear the word of God, **a demon will seize and choke him.**

He who is afflicted with a physical ailment and goes to those who deal with sorcery or the power of demons, forsaking the protection of God, shall also be excommunicated.

Take refuge in God and take shelter in the Holy Church, and do not move away from her, so that she may intercede for you to God. Everyone who takes shelter in her shall not be ashamed; she welcomes with joy all those who hasten to her to hear the word of God, **for the power of God is upon her.**

He hears the prayer of everyone who cries out to God day and night, morning and evening, saying, "I seek your salvation at all times; do not abandon us to those who torment us."

All of us, the people of Christ, should hasten to the Holy Church, for she is the atonement for sin, and through her, God sends us His mercy, so that we may be saved from the hands of our enemy, who is Satan. The demons strive to bring us down from the rank of the Holy Church, but our Lord desires to bring us to Him in His dwelling place.

Stand firm in the true faith, and do not fail to do good works at all times, so that you may pass from death to life. Everything that is written is written for our correction and rebuke. **If this is not the case, demons can mislead us, and we may fall, and the word of God may be forgotten.**

God desires humility, gentleness, and the love of one's neighbor, and He does not desire envy, deceit, or all the works of rebellion. If there is one who lives by those wicked deeds, let him be exiled and driven out of the Church.

There are those who twist the word of God to suit their wicked deeds and interpret the word of the Bible according to their evil thoughts to make it seem compatible with their wicked acts. But God will pay them back according to their deeds. **These evil people do not perish alone, but they strive to mislead and deceive many others to make them like themselves.**

If an evil thing enters the heart of a person, it corrupts the good teaching he received from the teachers of the Church, and makes him forget it. Just as a little *'egustar'* (a type of gall) spoils the taste of honey, so an evil thing, when it enters the heart of a person, corrupts the faith. **Therefore, we said before that an evil thing can corrupt the faith from the heart of a person.** Envy and lust make the hearts of the wise mad. **To slight and disregard the word of God is not profitable for the soul,** for it is a deviation from the good path. Moses warned his people not to stray from the way of God, saying, **"I have presented fire and water to you; put your hand into whichever you desire."**

Do not teach the people what you yourselves do not perform and practice. If you do this, they will say, **"They put an iron chain on our necks, which they themselves are unwilling to touch with their finger, and which we cannot bear.** They burden us with everything they cannot do."

Let us walk with caution so that they may not say, "They lead us to a path we do not know, while they themselves walk on the broad path as they desire, doing what is not pleasing to God."

But let us correct our way and our thoughts so that we may be the people of God, our God, and the household of God, our God. When we reach His presence, He will say to us, **"Come to Me, My people, all you who are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest."** Therefore, do not harm your souls for a trivial reason, **for all the wealth of this world is passing away.**

If the Spirit of God is upon you, you will know all that is right, beautiful, and joyful. But the person from whom the Spirit of God departs forgets everything, **and you, too, can become like that.** You can forget the law of God, as David said, **"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly."** Ungodly is he who forgets the word of God that he has been taught.

The Holy Spirit who is upon him will guide him, make him wise, and help him. He will be like a good spring, and only praise and supplication to God will come out of his mouth. **And God will grant mercy and forgiveness to him who does this.** The sanctified person who is guided by the Spirit of God does not cease to praise and exalt God from his mouth.

When a person who has the Holy Spirit calls on the name of God, he immediately receives an answer. He hears the word of God, saying, "Behold, I am with you." **As for the one who does not walk in the order of the Holy Church, excommunicate him and drive him out of her.**

The Church is a bride adorned with the word of the Prophets, Apostles, the righteous, and the martyrs. Above all, the Apostles despised the world and all that is in it for Christ's sake, and they separated themselves from their mothers and fathers **to find Him, for the love of God is better than all the love of this world's wealth.**

And what can be compared to the sweetness of His love? For He is better than the accumulation of gold and silver, and He tastes sweeter than honey and sugar. He gives more joy to the heart than wine, and He is known from much wisdom. **Though not visible to the eye, He is astonishing.**

The love of God is seen by the eye of the spirit, and is heard by the ear of the spirit, and they know in their heart that He is the Lord of all the world. The great beasts and animals praise the name of God, and the children of the Church who see them offer double praise.

The order of the Holy Church that our Lord told Peter on the Mount of Olives, and Peter told Clement.

Our Lord told Moses the work of the Tabernacle on Mount Sinai, and He told Peter the order of the Holy Church on the Mount of Olives for Clement.

If they look up to the sky, they see the sun, the moon, and the stars, as well as the calculation of the seasons based on them. All who observe this **praise God.**

Teach sinners and bring them back to repentance, for God accepts the repentance of a sinner. Also, **advise the righteous not to turn back and sin until the day of their death, and to be guarded.**

This is the order of the Church that was spoken by our Lord Jesus Christ to Saint Peter on the Mount of Olives, and Peter told the order that was spoken by our Lord to Clement. Peter is likened to Moses, and Clement is likened to Aaron.

Our Lord told Moses the administration of the Holy Tabernacle on Mount Sinai, and He told Peter the order of the Holy Church on the Mount of Olives for the Holy Church.

O Priest, do not be one who indulges in excessive eating lest you be caught in a snare like vultures (vultures are caught in a trap for their belly). **Be careful not to be caught in a trap like them.**

Humility, love, meekness, patience, peace, compassion for the poor, and giving of alms are known as the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.

O Priest, first cleanse yourself, and do not forget what is said in the Gospel: "First take the log out of your own eye." If you do not do this, **your own word will expose you when the Lord comes in His majestic glory and pays everyone according to his deeds.**

Receive those who repent and proclaim to them the hope of eternal life. Entrust to them the commandment of God, and visit them day and night.

O Priest, do not lower yourself from above, and do not lower your thoughts to the world. The **"above" is the Holy Church, and the "below" (world) is Hell, where those who have sinned enter.**

For those who walk according to their own will, against the will of God, Satan deceives them and throws them into a pit. When God was in conflict with Ahab, Satan said, **"I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of his prophets, and they shall be led astray."**

God accepts the priesthood of the children of Adam, and He accepts the praise of the priests like the Seraphim and Cherubim. The work of the Cherubim is only to praise God always.

It is not appropriate for the priests who are on this earth to adorn themselves with gold and silver. Hear, O my son Clement, if those who are called priests do not accept the counsel of teachers and **if they are led by their own will, Satan will overcome them.** If they make a habit of adorning themselves with gold and silver and go to places of singing, **they shall be excommunicated from their priesthood.**

The adornment of priests is the study of the word of the books, the interpretation of the books, and the sowing of the word of faith with humility and love.

A priest must be guided in this way only. A priest who does not accept the repentance of a sinner is not a priest. Remember that **the Lord, in the flesh He took from Mary, bore the sin of the whole world.** And He said to sinners, **"Come to Me, all you who are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest."** Again, He said,

"I am patient with the sinner, and I do not desire his death until he repents."

He who kills a person unintentionally shall be given a canon of seven *Suba'e* (weeks of fasting). He who kills a person knowingly shall be given seventy *Suba'e* of repentance. He shall not eat anything tasty (flavored with butter) except bread and water. **He shall always fast until the ninth hour (3 PM).**

He shall eat no butter, wine, or tasty food until 3 PM, while lowering his head and weeping for his sin, and he shall live in silence without laughter.

A vision was revealed to Peter by the grace given to him by God. Peter had lived forty years before the coming of our Lord. **And after our Lord was born, Peter was seventy-three years old during these days.**

Until the revelation was shown to Saint Peter, the gift and vision of God had ceased, and prophecy and the grace of God were distant from people. People were despised; they were weak and foolish. **God has made foolish the wisdom of this world, so those who say, "We are wise" are fools.**

Those who say, "We are honored in this world" are despised (in the presence of God). Those who justify themselves in this world are sinners (in the presence of God). For this reason, **Saint Peter and Saint Andrew, although they were righteous, were not called honored until the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** They were not called teachers; **they were only called fishermen.**

Fishermen are poor, and they did not have new nets; the net they had was old and torn. This was to show the grace of God upon the poor.

The first law was given to Moses, and the second and true law was given to Peter.

And this Saint Peter established a canon for all the faithful Christians who walk according to the law of the Holy Church.

This is given to those who repent. If people turn back and weep from their hearts to God, **their sin will be forgiven, and their guilt will be blotted out.** One tear drop of repentance is better than shedding the blood of many goats and sheep and offering sacrifices to please God.

The tear of the sinner that flows from repentance is similar to the tear shed by the martyrs for the sake of testifying to God.

The main point and benefit of repentance is not to return to the former sin. If a person insults the Holy Spirit by despising the priests and returns from his guilt with remorse, **give him a canonical period of nine *Suba'e* and seven months.** This should be done with a heart-felt return to his Creator with weeping and lamentation, **prostrating himself 100 times during the day and 100 times during the night.**

The wealth of this world is passing away; the joy we find in this world is very little, and the time is very short. Looking beautiful will cease, and natural beauty will disappear. **The love of relatives and children will be completely forgotten and lost.**

Think about the vanity of this world. Be careful that your heart is not hardened by excessive drinking, and do not expect happiness. Be careful that your time does not come without repentance. **Now you have repentance that can study you, heal you from the sickness of sin, and save you.** Above all, **hold fast to the love you have with your neighbor.** By this, God will be pleased; **He will accept your repentance, and the angels will rejoice in your repentance.**

Be in a pure conscience and pray to God at all times. By this, you can be saved from the war and the trap of Satan, who brings negligence to prevent you from repenting and turning away from your evil.

The soul says, **"There is nothing that benefits me except Holy Communion and Sacrifice.** If I am separated from this body, **I have no rest; the only time I have rest is when Holy Communion is performed and the Sacrifice is offered.** When Holy Communion is performed and the Sacrifice is offered, **I rejoice with all my family.** I will be like a bridegroom who is adorned and rejoices, **expressing his joy with all his family at his wedding."**

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There are trees in Paradise from which the souls of the righteous eat. Each trunk of a tree has thirty-one roots and has similar branches. On each branch, there are ten thousand clusters (vines).

On each cluster (vine), there are ten thousand fruits. And on each single fruit, twelve thousand souls of the righteous gather.

When you remember the souls of the departed in prayer, the soul of the departed, being a tree in Paradise, will bring spiritual joy to the person in this world (because the righteous soul prays for him from where it is in the Paradise tree). **The soul rejoices with its relatives until the last generation.**

The main meaning of repentance is to willingly leave the former sin and not return to it. If a person commits a sin and confesses all his sins to the priest without hiding anything, and **if he returns with steadfastness (a firm heart), he has no sin.**

Heavenly joy is not like the joy that wealth brings in this world. It is rather **a complete joy, praising God always.**

I will clearly tell you, my brothers, the time and moment will come when we can do nothing. The day will come when **it is impossible to speak, and the throat is closed.** The day will come when **it is impossible to see.** The day will come when **it is impossible to hear,** and the time will come when **it is impossible to hear the family crying and lamenting in front of them.**

Brothers and sisters, turn your hearts to God, and consider your latter life. Be concerned about your souls. You do not know when the final hour will be, so be prepared, and **weep for your sins now instead of weeping uselessly later.**

The soul that is in condemnation seeks rest because of the multitude of distress and suffering. However, **it cannot find rest even for a second,** because it did not remember this while alive, **and because of forgetting that it is mortal, it did not repent while alive.** It receives its judgment from God with fear and anxiety.

"Hearing all this, turn your hearts to Me," says God. Do not forget what will come later. Do not let the hour of your death come upon you before you repent; **prefer this vain world, and be wise about it. Be careful that your repentance and remorse are not after your death, for there is no value in repentance after death.** Hasten to do good works and repent while you are alive, **lest you say, "Why did we not do what we heard?" And lest you be cut down like a fruitless tree and cast into the fire.**

Do not delay repentance; repent quickly. When you hear the teaching of the faith, **do not forget that it is the fruit of labor. Eat it with the buds (first stages) but do not be satisfied with its sweet fragrance.** I tell you this again: **all of you must listen to my counsel and turn back from your evil ways, for the greatest downfall of a person is to die without repentance.**

The Enemy (Satan) has blinded the hearts of many people in this world so that they may not return to God. There are those who say, **"God created the pure, and the devil created the impure." This is a great error.** There is no creator except the one God. **God created everything desiring it to be pure, but man himself can become impure.**

If there is one who says, "The Holy Spirit can be defiled by an impure spirit," let him be excommunicated. For the Holy Spirit sanctifies the defiled and cleanses everything. The soul of man is the temple of God. O fool, why are you ashamed to tell all your sins to your priest and not repent? The priests to whom you tell your sins in detail are mortals like you.

"There is no word that I have not proclaimed to all those who do not believe in Me. And those who believe in Me and repent while on earth will inherit My Kingdom with Me, for they have repented while on earth." Hasten to repent while on this earth, so that you may pass from death to life. **If you confess all you have done here, you will not encounter anything shameful after the resurrection; rather, you will rejoice.**

Do not think that those who did not finish their sins with repentance while on earth will be forgotten. Only sorrow and tribulation await them. My brother, **remember the day of your death and keep the commandments of God. In the presence of God, there is no showing of favor or partiality.**

If you accumulate much wealth in this world and die, there is no benefit it will give you, except that your relatives will fight over it. Therefore, hasten to give alms so that it may be your provision in the world to come. He who follows the will of his flesh, his fruit will be evil. **He who follows the will of his soul, his fruit will be good and eternal life.**

The flesh desires joy and rest on this earth. The soul, however, desires labor and prayer. The flesh desires drinking and sleep, **but the soul desires repentance and vigilance.** The flesh desires pride and the vanity that springs from the heart on this earth, **but the soul desires humility, meekness, and mutual love with grace.**

We wrote this book to remember and commemorate the fathers who were in the Holy Mountain (*Debre Kedus*) and were buried in the Cave of Treasures (*Be'ate Mezagebt*). Our father **Adam died on the 7th of Miyazya (April) on a Friday at the third hour (9 AM). Seth, the son of Adam, died on a Tuesday on the 10th of Tahsas (December). Enos, the son of Seth, died on a Saturday on the 7th of Teqemt (October).**

Cainan, the son of Enos, died on a Wednesday on the 13th of Sene (June). Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, died on a Sunday on the 2nd of Miyazya (April). Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, died on a Friday on the 12th of Ginbot (May) at the third hour (9 AM). Methuselah, the son of Enoch, died on a Sunday on the 1st of Megabit (March).

Lamech, the son of Methuselah, died on the 21st of Meskerem (September). Enoch, the son of Lamech, died on a Wednesday on the 6th of Ter (January).

These are the Holy Fathers who were in the Holy Mountain and were buried in the Cave of Treasures. Noah was not buried there, but went down to the earth where the Lord commanded him to build the ark. May the prayer of these fathers be upon us. Amen.